

CONNECTICUT  
AQUACULTURE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. LEASING OF SHELLFISH GROUNDS

Issuing Agency:	Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture P.O.Box 97, Rogers Avenue Milford, CT 06460 (203) 874-0696 FAX: (203) 783-9976
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 26-194
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	Leasing of submerged lands in marine waters for shellfish bottom culture.
Purpose:	To provide for development of the shellfish culture in State waters.
Process:	Competitive bid process. Minimum bid \$2.00/acre.
Fees:	Application fee \$65.00; Surveying fee \$35.00/corner; legal notice fee, plus annual lease fee established by bid process.
Other Information:	Ten acre minimum, 3-10 year term with renewal option.

2. INSPECTION AND REGULATIONS CONCERNING SHELLFISH LICENSE

Issuing Agency:	Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture P.O.Box 97, Rogers Avenue Milford, CT 06460 (203) 874-0696 FAX: (203) 783-9976
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 26-192c, 26-192h.
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	Shellfish harvesting, transplant, relay, depuration and processing.
Purpose:	Sanitary control of commercial operations, protection of natural resources.
Process:	Through application process and inspection.
Fees:	Under review - presently no fee required.
Other Information:	Based on National Shellfish Sanitation Program requirements.

### 3. DEPOSITING OF SHELLFISH IN TIDAL WATERS - REGULATIONS

Issuing Agency:	Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture P.O.Box 97, Rogers Avenue Milford, CT 06460 (203) 874-0696 FAX: (203) 783-9976
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 26-224a.
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	Importation of shellfish, Inspection of hatcheries.
Purpose:	To protect State's marine environment from introductions of pest predators, parasites and undesirable aquatic plants and animals.
Process:	Application process, inspections.
Fees:	Variable, to cover costs of inspection, testing, etc.
Other Information:	

### 4. STRUCTURES, DREDGING AND FILL IN TIDAL, COASTAL OR NAVIGABLE WATERS

Issuing Agency:	Department of Environmental Protection Office of Long Island Sound Programs 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 424-3034
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 22a-359 through 22a-363f.
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	Placement of fill, dredging and structures such as buildings, floats, docks, culverts, intake and outfall pipes, etc.
Purpose:	Planning and control of development in coastal areas for purposes of environmental protection.
Process:	Application process, plan and site review, payment of fees.
Fees:	Variable depending on size of water area occupied - \$350.00 minimum.
Other Information:	Certain in-water activity may only require a certificate of permission from agency - Fee \$200.00

## 5. COMMERCIAL FISH HATCHERIES

Issuing Agency:	Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Fisheries 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 424-3474
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 26-149
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	Establishment of commercial fish hatchery where legally acquired fish are held, hatched and/or reared for sale.
Purpose:	Regulation of activities to protect the State's waters and the health of aquatic resources.
Process:	Application process, payment of fees.
Fees:	Annual \$65.00 fee.
Other Information:	Annual reporting requirements for live fish and live fish eggs received or sold.

## 6. TRANSPORTATION AND EXPORTATION OF FISH, REPTILES OR AMPHIBIANS

Issuing Agency:	Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Fisheries 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 424-3474
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 26-57
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	Transportation within State and/or transport out of the state of any fish, reptile or amphibian (also pertains to birds and quadrupeds).
Purpose:	Protection of species for which closed seasons have been established.
Process:	Application to agency.
Fees:	Presently no fee.
Other Information:	Tag and label requirements.

## 7. PERMIT FOR NEW DISCHARGE 401 CERTIFICATION/NPDES

Issuing Agency:	Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Fisheries 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 424-3017
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 22a-430*
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	To initiate, create, originate or maintain any discharge of water, substance or material into the waters of the State.
Purpose:	To protect State's water quality and aquatic resources. Federal Clean Water Act Compliance.
Process:	Application review, public notice. Payment of fees.
Fees:	Fees are variable. Contact agency.
Other Information:	*Sec. 22a-4306 provides for agency to issue general permits for certain categories of discharges. NOT ALL AQUACULTURE DISCHARGES SUBJECT TO 401 OR NPDES.

## 8. WATER DIVERSION PERMIT

Issuing Agency:	Department of Environmental Protection Water Management Bureau 79 Elm Street Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 424-3017
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 22a-369
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	Water withdrawal, alternation, modification or diminution of State water resources for consumptive uses GREATER THAN 50,000 GALLONS PER DAY.
Purpose:	To protect State's water resources.
Process:	Application review, review, hearing process. Payment of fees.
Fees:	Variable depending on volume and water shed size.
Other Information:	

## 9. LICENSING OF AQUACULTURE OPERATIONS

Issuing Agency:	Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture P.O.Box 97, Rogers Avenue Milford, CT 06460 (203) 874-0696 FAX: (203) 783-9976
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 22-11f.
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	The rearing, cultivation and harvest of aquatic animals and plants in land-based culture systems, tanks, containers, impoundments and ponds.
Purpose:	To provide for controlled development of aquaculture in the State.
Process:	Application process.
Fees:	Not yet established.
Other Information:	

## 10. RELEASES FROM AQUACULTURE SYSTEMS

Issuing Agency:	Department of Agriculture Bureau of Aquaculture P.O.Box 97, Rogers Avenue Milford, CT 06460 (203) 874-0696 FAX: (203) 783-9976
Statutory Reference:	Sec. 22-11g.
Regulatory Reference:	
Activities Covered:	Release of water, plants, animals or material from land-based aquaculture systems.
Purpose:	To protect the State's natural environment and resources.
Process:	Application process.
Fees:	None.
Other Information:	

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Sidney J. Holbrook  
Commissioner

Fisheries Division

CONNECTICUT  
FISHERIES  
REGULATIONS

Concerning

PUBLIC USE OF STATE FACILITIES AND WATERS  
IMPORTATION OF FISH  
FISH SPAWNING AREAS AND REFUGES  
INLAND WATERS AND MARINE DISTRICT DEFINED  
SPORT FISHING IN THE INLAND DISTRICT  
PROHIBITED ACTS  
PRIVATE WATERS  
PRIVATELY STOCKED WATERS  
COMMERCIAL FISHING IN THE INLAND AND MARINE DISTRICTS  
COMMERCIAL HATCHERIES  
REPORTS TO THE COMMISSIONER  
TAKING OF LOBSTER  
COMMERCIAL AND SPORT FISHING IN THE MARINE DISTRICT

1997

Effective Date January 1, 1997

PUBLIC USE OF STATE FACILITIES AND WATERS

Sec. 26-16-1. Prohibited acts in access areas to streams, lakes, tidal areas including Long Island Sound, etc.

At all facilities under control of the Department of Environmental Protection developed for the purpose of providing access or parking or both parking and access for fishermen, hunters, boaters, and the general public to streams, lakes, ponds and tidal waters, including Long Island Sound, public use of such facilities is restricted to conform with the purpose of such access and parking areas and the following regulations shall apply:

(a) Discarding of bottles, glass, cans, paper, junk, litter, fish or portions of fish and trash is

prohibited.

- (b) Garbage and trash shall not be brought to any such area for disposal.
- (c) The washing and cleaning of vehicles, other than boats, is prohibited.
- (d) Vehicles shall be parked only in authorized locations.
- (e) Kindling of open fires is prohibited.
- (f) Camping is prohibited.
- (g) Disorderly conduct, intoxication, obscene or indecent behavior is prohibited.
- (h) Damaging any building, facility, poster, tree or shrub is prohibited.
- (i) The use of all facilities shall be limited to (1) fishing, (2) parking for the purpose of fishing, boating, or hunting where permitted and (3) launching or mooring of boats where these facilities are provided. There shall be no use of these areas or facilities for purposes other than fishing and (or) hunting from 9 p.m. to sunrise, prevailing time. Such areas or facilities may be closed to all use when such prohibition is shown by posters erected by the department of environmental protection or its agent.
- (j) At state-owned or state-controlled boat launching areas, no boat shall be moored or anchored in a manner that will obstruct or interfere with the launching of other boats, and no boat shall be left unattended in the water unless such boat has, in an exposed area, the name and address of the owner of such boat painted or branded thereon or in any legible manner attached thereto. Any boat anchored or moored in violation of this subsection, and not removed within forty-eight hours after notification has been served on the owner thereof, shall be subject to impoundment at the expense of the owner and such owner shall be subject for violations of the provisions of this subsection. For the purpose of this subsection, notice shall be considered to have been served on the owner when a warning card has been affixed to his boat by a representative of the department of environmental protection. At state-owned or state-controlled boat launching areas unattended boats left moored or anchored after December fifteenth and before April first shall be subject to impoundment at the expense of the owner and such owner shall be subject to the penalties provided for violations of the provisions of this subsection.
- (k) No person shall engage in any commercial activity at such facility unless so authorized by the department of environmental protection.

## IMPORTATION OF FISH

### Sec. 26-55-1. Importation, transportation or liberation of live fish or live fish eggs

No person, firm or corporation shall import into this state, transport for the purpose of liberation within this state or liberate into the waters of this state live fish or live fish eggs except as hereinafter provided.

- (a) Permits for the importation or liberation of live fish and live fish eggs may be issued at the discretion of the Commissioner.
- (b) No permit for the importation or liberation of live fish or live fish eggs shall be issued to cover a period of more than sixty days and a separate application must be made for each importation or liberation of live fish or live fish eggs.
- (c) All applications for an importation permit or liberation permit shall include the full name and address of the applicant and the vendor from whom the live fish or live fish eggs will be obtained, the number of each species of live fish or live fish eggs to be imported or liberated, the purpose of

such importation or liberation and, if such live fish or live fish eggs are to be liberated, the name and location of the waters where such live fish or live fish eggs are to be liberated.

(d) Any live fish or live fish eggs originating outside of the United States, or originating from west of the United States continental divide, must be certified as disease free prior to shipment by a person or persons acceptable to the Commissioner and such disease free certification shall accompany the shipment of such live fish or live fish eggs. Any live fish or live fish eggs originating outside of the United States must, in addition, have official clearance in writing, from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

(e) Representatives of the Commissioner may inspect any imported fish or fish eggs being brought into the state. The Commissioner may order that any live fish or live fish eggs, suspected of carrying diseases, pathogens or parasites capable of inducing any disease, be quarantined, at permittee's expense, for a period of up to one hundred and twenty days.

(f) Any fish which show evidence of any disease, pathogen or parasite capable of inducing any disease shall be immediately taken to the state fish pathologist for examination and diagnosis. In the event that any disease, pathogen or parasite capable of inducing any disease is determined to be present by said pathologist the Commissioner may in the public interest, order that all imported fish as well as any other fish present in the waters containing such imported fish be destroyed by whatever means he shall determine is the most practical and in the best public interest.

(g) No imported fish or fish eggs shall be liberated or introduced into the waters of the state if they are known to be infected with disease or infected with parasites which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, would make the liberation of such fish inadvisable in the interest of protecting humans, resident fish species or established exotic fish species from disease or parasitism.

(h) No permit shall be required to import, live common aquarium species. The importation or possession of piranha of the subfamily: Serrasalminae, genera Serrasalmus, Serrasalmo, Pygocentrus, Teddyella, Rooseveltiella, and Pygopristus and walking catfish of the family Clariidae, genera Clarias, Heteropneustes, Dinotoplerus and Heterobranchus is prohibited except that the Commissioner may at his discretion issue permits for the importation and possession, when it is in the public interest, for public display purposes, of single specimens of piranha and walking catfish. Such possession permits shall be issued for a calendar year and the applicant must request renewal of said permit prior to December thirty-first of the year said permit is in effect. Renewal of said permit shall be at the discretion of the Commissioner. Such permittee shall report annually to the Commissioner during the month of December on the status and health of the specimen for which said permit is issued, except that in the case of death of said specimen the permittee shall report same to the Commissioner within seven days.

(i) The importation, possession or liberation of grass carp or white amur (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*) is prohibited, except that the Commissioner, at his discretion, may issue a permit for the importation, possession and liberation of triploid (sterile) grass carp into lakes and ponds of this state as herein provided.

(1) Water into which grass carp are to be liberated may be inspected by an agent of the Commissioner.

(2) The Commissioner shall not issue a permit for the liberation of triploid grass carp into any waters under multiple ownership unless all individuals who have ownership rights on such waters have first provided written agreement to such liberation.

(3) The Commissioner shall not issue a permit for the liberation of triploid grass carp into any waters unless the outlet and inlet of such waters are, in his opinion, adequately screened so as to



prevent the emigration of such grass carp or unless such waters are ecologically isolated. For the purposes of this subsection, ecologically isolated means any waters from which, in the opinion of the Commissioner, the emigration of such grass carp will not significantly impact public waters or waters of another, or from which there is no surface water outflow.

(4) Any permit for the liberation of triploid grass carp issued by the Commissioner may prescribe the number and size class of triploid grass carp that may be liberated.

(5) Such fish shall be certified as triploid prior to shipment by a person or persons acceptable to the Commissioner and such certification shall accompany the shipment of such fish.

(6) At least fourteen (14) days prior to importation of such fish, the permittee shall notify the Commissioner of the date that any grass carp are to be imported and the location where such fish may be inspected.

(7) Such fish may be inspected and may be sampled and tested for triploidy by an approved method by an agent of the Commissioner prior to liberation.

(8) Any shipment of grass carp which contains any diploid (fertile) individuals shall be confiscated and disposed of at the discretion of the Commissioner.

(9) The owner of any pond into which grass carp are liberated shall allow agents of the Commissioner to monitor the population dynamics of the grass carp and other environmental conditions of the pond in order to determine the long term efficacy of grass carp in Connecticut waters.

(10) In the event that any grass carp or white amur, that are capable of reproduction, are liberated into or found in any waters of this state, the Commissioner may, in the public interest, order that all such fish as well as any other fish present in such waters be destroyed by whatever means he shall determine to be the most practical and in the best public interest except as provided in Public Act 89-218.

(j) Live fish or live fish eggs of the following species, genera or families shall not be imported into the state or possessed: (1) bowfin (*Amia calva*); (2) gars (*Lepisosteidae*); (3) gizzard shad (*Dorosoma cepedianum*); (4) white bass (*Morone chrysops*); (5) freshwater drum (*Aplodinotus grunniens*); (6) snail carp or black carp (*Mylopharyngodon piceus*); (7) silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*); (8) big head carp (*Aristichthys nobilis*); (9) carp (*Cyprinus carpio*); (10) tench (*Tinca tinca*); (11) rohu (*Labeo rohita*); (12) calbasu (*Labeo calbasa*); (13) catla (*Catla catla*); (14) mrigal (*Cirrhina mrigala*); (15) mahseer (*Tor tor*); (16) crucian carp (*Carassius carassius*); (17) rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*); (18) european whitefish, orfe or ide (*Leuciscus idus*); (19) any species of fish whose importation into the United States is prohibited; (20) any species of fish designated rare, threatened or endangered; and (21) any species of fish which the Commissioner determines is potentially dangerous to humans, established species of fish established aquatic plants.

In the event that any of the species listed previously in this subsection are liberated or introduced into any waters of the state, the Commissioner may, in the public interest, order that all such fish as well as any other fish present in such waters be destroyed by whatever means he shall determine is the most practical and in the best public interest.

(k) The transporter of any live fish or live fish eggs that are destined for any state waters shall be in possession of a copy of the importation or liberation permit covering such live fish or live fish eggs and any applicable disease free certification. Any box, package or container holding live fish or live fish eggs transported by a common carrier and destined for delivery in this state shall have

attached thereto and in plain view a copy of the permit covering such importation and any

## FISH SPAWNING AREAS AND REFUGES

### Sec. 26-102-1. Fish spawning areas and refuges

(a) Farmington River power company canal from the Rainbow Dam downstream to its confluence with the Farmington River.

limits of boating.

## INLAND WATERS AND MARINE DISTRICT DEFINED

The following lines across streams flowing into Long Island Sound, Fisher's Island Sound, Little Narragansett Bay and tributaries thereof shall be known as the inland-marine demarcation lines

water shall be known as the "marine district":

### FAIRFIELD COUNTY

marine district--up to and including the railroad crossing  
inland district--all waters above

marine district--none  
inland district--above junction with mouth of harbor

marine district--up to and including the first railroad crossing  
inland district--all waters above

marine district--below dam just above Boston Post Road  
inland district--all waters above

marine district--up to and including the first railroad crossing  
in-land district--all waters above

marine district--up to and including Boston Post Road

inland district--all waters above

Goodwives River, Darien

marine district--below Stone Dam north of Goodwives River Road

inland district--all waters above

Tokeneke Brook, Darien

marine district--up to and including Old Farm Road

inland district--all waters above

Five Mile River, Darien-Norwalk

marine district--up to and including bridge on route 136

inland district--all waters above

Norwalk River, Norwalk

marine district--up to and including Wall Street Bridge

inland district--all waters above

Saugatuck River, Westport

marine district--up to and including bridge on King's Highway

inland district--all waters above

Stony Brook, Westport

marine district--up to and including bridge on Riverside Avenue

inland district--all waters above

Muddy Brook, Westport

marine district- up to and including Stone Bridge on route 136

inland district--all waters above

Sasco Brook, Westport

marine district--below Buckleys Mill Dam just above route 1

inland district--all waters above

Mill River, Fairfield

marine district--below dam at head of Southport Harbor, Harbor Road

inland district--all waters above

Rooster River, Bridgeport

marine district--up to and including bridge on North Avenue

inland district--all waters above

Pequonnock River, Bridgeport

marine district--up to North Avenue (route 1)

inland district--all waters above

Bruces Brook, Bridgeport-Stratford  
marine district--up to Stratford Avenue  
inland district--all waters above

Pumpkin Ground Brook, Stratford  
marine district--up to and including bridge on route 110  
inland district--all waters above

Negro Brook, Stratford  
marine district--up to and including bridge on route 110  
inland district--all waters above

#### NEW HAVEN COUNTY

Wepawaug River, Milford  
marine district--below Memorial Bridge at Fowler's Mill on route 122  
inland district--all waters above

Indian River, Milford  
marine district--up to and including route 122  
inland district--all waters above

Oyster River, Milford  
marine district--up to and including Shore Road, route 122  
inland district--all waters above

Cove River, West Haven  
marine district--up to and including Shore Road, route 122  
inland district--all waters above

West River, West Haven  
marine district--below the tide gates at Orange Avenue Bridge (sometimes called Congress Avenue Bridge, route 1)  
inland district--all waters above

Mill River, New Haven  
marine district--up to and including below tide gates at State Street Bridge  
inland district--all waters above

Quinnipiac River, New Haven  
marine district--up to and including interstate route 91  
inland district--all waters above

Farm River, East Haven (sometimes called East River)  
marine district--up to and including route 142  
inland district--all waters above

Branford River, Branford

marine district--up to and including Montowese Street Bridge

inland district--all waters above

West River, Guilford

marine district--up to and including route 146 bridge

inland district--all waters above

East Creek, Guilford

marine district--up to and including tide gates at Guilford dock

inland district--all waters above

East River, Madison-Guilford

marine district--up to and including route 1

inland district--all waters above

Neck River, Madison

marine district--up to and including route 1

inland district--all waters above

Hammonasset River, Madison

marine district--up to and including route 1

inland district--all waters above

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Hammonasset River, Clinton

marine district--up to and including route 1

inland district--all waters above

Clinton River, Clinton (also known as Indian River)

marine district--up to and including route 1

inland district--all waters above

Menunketesuck River, Westbrook

marine district--up to and including route 1

inland district--all waters above

Patchogue River, Westbrook

marine district--up to and including route 1

inland district--all waters above

Oyster River, Old Saybrook

marine district--up to and including route 1

inland district--all waters above

Black River, Old Saybrook

Connecticut River, Old Saybrook  
marine district--up to and including interstate route 95

NEW LONDON COUNTY  
Connecticut River, Old Lyme

inland district--all waters above

Lieutenant River, Old Lyme

inland district--all waters above

Duck River, Old Lyme

Blackhall River, Old Lyme  
marine district--up to and including route 156

Mile Creek, Old Lyme  
entirely in marine district

marine district--up to and including first railroad crossing  
inland district--all waters above

marine district--up to and including first railroad crossing  
inland district--all waters above

marine district--up to and including first railroad crossing  
inland district--all waters above

marine district--up to and including first railroad crossing  
inland district--all waters above

marine district--up to and including first railroad crossing  
inland district--all waters above

Jordan's Cove, Waterford  
marine district--up to and including first railroad crossing  
inland district--all waters above

Hammond's Cove, Waterford  
entirely in marine district

Alewife Cove, Waterford-New London  
entirely in marine district

Shaws Cove, New London  
entirely in marine district

Winthrop Cove, New London  
entirely in marine district

SPECIAL NOTE: A portion of the demarcation lines between inland and marine waters are covered by Section 26-109 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

#### SPORT FISHING IN THE INLAND DISTRICT

##### Sec. 26-112-21. Application of regulations

These regulations concern sport fishing in all waters in the inland district, except fishing at licensed commercial hatcheries, in waters registered as private waters with the Department of Environmental Protection and in waters under association ownership or control and privately stocked as provided in section 26-132 of the General Statutes.

##### Sec. 26-112-23. Waters of the inland district

For the purpose of these regulations, the waters of the inland district are such waters as are established by the Commissioner under the provisions of sections 26-108 and 26-109 of the general statutes and are defined as follows:

(a) "Streams" means all rivers, streams, brooks, creeks, and their flood waters, including temporary and seasonal pools resulting therefrom, and all coves, lagoons and canals contiguous thereto, but does not include that portion of impounded bodies of water on rivers, streams, brooks and creeks listed by the Secretary of State as a lake, pond or reservoir.

(b) "Lakes and ponds" means all natural and artificial impounded bodies of water listed by the Secretary of State as lakes, ponds and reservoirs, and includes their flood waters, including temporary and seasonal pools resulting therefrom and all coves and lagoons contiguous thereto.

##### Sec. 26-112-39. Conduct of fishermen

The following regulations relating to fishing and the behavior and conduct of fishermen apply through the inland district.

(a) Entrance and exit from streams, lakes and ponds is restricted to rights-of-way designated by

(b) (1) All fishermen shall keep within a reasonable distance of the banks of streams, lakes and ponds and shall not trespass on lawns or posted property. (2) On streams open to fishing under

of the stream bank.

(c) Domestic animals, agricultural crops and other property shall not be damaged.

posters erected by the Department or its agent.

(e) Fishing and/or trespassing is prohibited in fish spawning areas, refuge and closed areas and

(f) Fishing is prohibited in any state reservation area when such area is so posted by the Department of Environmental Protection.

lane, passageway, right-of-way, field or lot when such prohibition is shown by posters erected by the Department or its agent.

water open to fishing or otherwise under the jurisdiction of the Department of Environmental Protection.

as indicated by posters.

(j) At Department-controlled boat launching areas no boat shall be moored or anchored in a

unattended in the water unless such boat has, in an exposed area, the name and address of the owner of such boat painted or branded thereon or in any legible manner attached thereto.

or anchored after December fifteenth and before April first shall be subject to impoundment at the expense of the owner and such owner shall be subject to the penalties provided for violations of

#### Sec. 26-112-42. Fishing Tournaments/Derbys

No person or club shall conduct, on waters open to public fishing, a fishing tournament or derby

Tournament/Derby Permit as herein provided.

(a) Each person or club wishing to conduct a fishing tournament or derby on waters open to the

provided by him. Information required on such application may include, but need not be limited to: the full name and address of the applicant; name of the tournament or derby; sponsor; location;

daily bag limits; size limit; entry fee; and total value of awards.

(b) Permits for fishing tournaments or derbies on waters open to public fishing shall be issued at

(c) Each permittee shall, within seven days after conducting a tournament or derby, report to the Commissioner, on forms provided by him, information on the results of the tournament or derby.



Such information shall include, but need not be limited to: total number of participants; total hours fished; total number of each species caught; total weight of each species caught; number of fish released after weigh-in; and number of fish retained after weigh-in.

(d) Representatives of the Commissioner may collect biological and statistical information on any or all fish caught by participants at any permitted tournament or derby.

#### Sec. 26-112-43. Definitions and restrictions

(a) "Angling" means fishing with hook and line which shall be personally attended, but shall not include ice fishing or snagging or snatching. Not more than two lines, with or without rods, may be used at one time. Each line may have any combination of hooks, flies or lures, among which not more than three hooks may be baited.

(b) "Bait" means any animal, bait species as defined in Section 26-112-45(d), fish eggs, insect or vegetable, or parts thereof, living or dead, used with a hook for the purpose of attracting and catching fish. Any fish legally acquired, except black bass (largemouth and smallmouth), chain pickerel, northern pike, trout, charr, salmon, carp and goldfish may be used as bait, except as provided in section 26-112-48(b).

(c) "Bait fishing" means taking or attempting to take bait species, for personal use as bait or food, by use of a bait seine, bait trap, umbrella net, scoop net or by hand.

(d) "Bait seine" means a seine or net which, for the purpose of this regulation, does not exceed fifteen feet in length and four feet in depth and is used for the taking of bait species.

(e) "Bait trap" means a glass, wire or wooden device which, for the purpose of this regulation, does not exceed twenty inches in length and fifteen inches in diameter and is used for the taking of bait species.

(f) "Bobbing" means fishing with a ball or mass of worms or other bait attached to a line held in the hand or a line attached to a rod held in the hand to which no hooks are attached.

(g) "Bow and arrow fishing" means fishing by use of a weapon made of wood or other elastic material, with a cord to connect the two ends when bent, by which an arrow is propelled, but shall not include the use of a cross bow. The use of a cross bow in fishing is prohibited.

(h) "Children's stream" and "children's pond" means waters that are set aside in whole or in part as children's fishing areas when such restriction is indicated by posters. Angling in such areas is restricted to children under sixteen years of age.

(i) "Closed season" means that period of time during which all fishing is prohibited in the area specified.

(j) "Daily creel limit" means the quantity or number of fish of a species or species group that can be taken by an individual angler during the period from 12:01 a.m. to midnight.

(k) "Hook" or "fishhook" means a curved, pointed device, with or without barb, used to catch fish. Hooks may be single, double or treble and each point shall be considered as a single hook.

(l) "Fishing" or "sport fishing" means taking or attempting to take fish in the inland district, except for commercial purposes, and is restricted to angling, bow and arrow fishing, bobbing, ice fishing, snagging or snatching, spearing, scoop netting, and taking or attempting to take fish by hand.

(m) "Float" or "bobber" means any buoyant object attached to a fishing line. No such float shall be used unless the line is personally attended.

(n) "Fly" means a single or double hook dressed with hair, feathers, tinsel, thread, yarn or similar

material to which no bait, spinner, spoon, plug or other device is added.

(o) "Fly fishing" means angling with the use of a fly reel, fly rod, fly line, leader and a fly or flies. Additional weight may be built into the fly in its construction, as in a weighted nymph, and additional weight may be attached to the leader. The use of strike indicators, as defined in this section, is permitted.

(p) "Hand-held jig" means a rod, jig stick or line held in the hand, used for fishing through the ice.

(q) "Ice fishing" means fishing through the ice with tip-ups, bobbers or floats, similar devices or hand-held jigs. The following restrictions shall apply to ice fishing:

(1) Persons legally licensed to fish may use, at one time, tip-ups, bobbers or floats, similar devices or hand-held jigs in any combination thereof, not exceeding six in the aggregate.

(2) Persons under sixteen years of age may use two tip-ups, bobbers, floats, similar devices or hand held jigs in any combination thereof, not exceeding two in the aggregate.

(3) Each line shall be restricted to not more than three baited hooks, with or without attractors, or three ice flies or three artificial lures or any combination thereof, not exceeding three in the aggregate.

(4) All tip-ups, bobbers or floats or similar devices shall have the name and address of the person using the same legibly printed thereon or attached thereto.

(5) No tip-ups, bobbers or floats or similar devices shall be used unless they are personally attended.

(r) "Minimum length" means the smallest total length of a species or species group that may be legally possessed, measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail unless otherwise specified. No person shall possess any fish less than the lengths specified and any fish less than the minimum length shall, without avoidable injury, be immediately returned to the water from which taken.

(s) "Possession limit" means the total number of fish of any species or species group that may be legally possessed by one person, either on the person, on the waters of the inland district, or the shores of such waters, or in any type of vehicle. Possession limit in the field shall not exceed the daily creel limit. Any fish in possession shall be intact to the extent that neither the heads nor the tails have been removed but gills and viscera may be removed. Possession limit shall not be construed to restrict the number of legally acquired fish that may be kept in storage in the home or in other storage facilities.

(t) "Scoop net" or "scap net" means a net attached to a handle which, for the purpose of this regulation, shall be not over thirty-six inches across the widest point of the single hoop or have a mesh bag more than thirty-six inches in depth at its deepest point. Such net shall be constructed of flexible mesh material and shall be manually operated by a single individual. The use of any such net constructed of metal mesh or stiff plastic mesh is prohibited.

(u) "Set line" means a line with one or both ends secured to the shore or to a fixed or buoyant object in the water which is used for fishing and is not personally attended. Set lines shall not be used in the inland district.

(v) "Snagging" or "snatching" means the taking of fish by foul hooking, that is, hooking fish in any part of the body other than inside the mouth. Snagging or snatching is prohibited in all waters in the inland district for all species of fish and any fish so taken shall be released immediately, except, in streams open to fishing throughout the year, as provided in section 26-112-44, carp, suckers, eels, lampreys, menhaden, alewives and blueback (glut) herring may be taken by snagging

or snatching.

(w) "Spearing" means the use of any pointed instrument, with or without barbs, which is propelled by hand. The use of spears is prohibited in lakes and ponds and in streams, or sections of streams, stocked with trout, chaff and salmon. Spears may be used only for taking carp, suckers, eels and lampreys. In the inland district, fish shall not be taken by underwater spear fishing and the use of any type of spear gun in fishing is prohibited.

(x) "Strike indicator" means a brightly colored, highly visible tab, sleeve or bead or similar material used in fly fishing. Such devices may be attached to the line or leader when used in areas restricted to fly fishing only.

(y) "Take" or "taking" means killing, capturing or otherwise rendering into possession, any fish or bait species, or attempting to kill, capture or render into possession, or assisting in taking or attempting to take any fish or bait species.

(z) "Disabled Persons Fishing Area" means an area set aside for the exclusive use by the physically handicapped when such restriction is indicated by posters.

#### Sec. 26-112-44. Closed seasons

(a) Streams. The closed season for fishing in streams shall be from midnight on the last day in February through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April, except as provided below:

(1) Streams open to fishing throughout the year. There shall be no closed season for fishing in the following streams, or portions thereof, as specified:

Coginchaug River, Middletown - downstream from the Route 72 bridge to its junction with the Mattabassett River (Sebeth River).

Connecticut River and its coves.

Eight Mile River, Lyme - downstream from the first bridge above Hamburg Cove to its junction with the Connecticut River.

Farmington River - downstream from the outlet of the Rainbow Dam Tailrace Canal to its confluence with the Connecticut River (all fishing is prohibited in the Rainbow Dam Tailrace Canal and in the Farmington River from the mouth of the Tailrace Canal upstream to Rainbow Dam).

Housatonic River - downstream from the dam on Lake Housatonic (the Derby Dam).

Latimer Brook, East Lyme and Waterford - downstream from the Old Mill abutments at the head of tide.

Mattabasset River (Sebeth River), Middletown - downstream from the Route 72 bridge to its junction with the Connecticut River.

Quinnipiac River - downstream from the highway bridge on Route 5 in North Haven to its junction with New Haven Harbor.

Salmon River, Haddam and East Haddam - downstream from the bridge on Route 151 to its junction with the Connecticut River.

Thames River and its coves - downstream from Greenville Dam.

Whitfords Brook and Mystic River, Groton and Stonington - downstream from the bridge on Route 27.

(2) Children's Streams. The closed season for fishing in the following posted children's streams shall be from midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Indian Hole Brook, Shelton - from the falls in Indian Wells State Park downstream to the railroad bridge.

Quinebaug River, Putnam - within Putnam Town Park.

Wepawaug River, Orange - from old New Haven/Derby Railroad upstream approximately two miles.

(3) Trout Management Areas. There shall be no closed season for fishing in Trout Management Areas listed in section 26-112-46 except as provided therein.

(b) Lakes and Ponds. There shall be no closed season for fishing in lakes and ponds, except as provided below.

(1) The closed season for fishing in the following lakes and ponds shall be from midnight on October thirty-first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Angus Parks Pond (Eastbury Park Pond), Glastonbury.

Batterson Park Pond, Farmington, New Britain.

Beaver Park Lagoon, New Haven.

Bicentennial Pond (Mansfield Town Pond), Mansfield.

Godfrey Pond, Stonington.

Green Falls Reservoir, Voluntown.

Hewitt Flyfishing Pond (Gallup Pond), North Stonington.

Mohegan Lake, Fairfield.

Pistol Shop Pond, Middlefield.

Prospect Park Pond, Prospect.

Shenipsit Reservoir, Ellington, Tolland, Vernon.

Tollgate Ponds, Greenwich.

Walkers Reservoir (East), Vernon.

Wononscopomuc Lake, Salisbury. Fishing hours shall be from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. prevailing time.

(2) The closed season for fishing in the following lakes and ponds shall be from midnight on the last day in February through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Alexander Lake, Killingly.

Axle Shop Pond, Hamden.  
Bald Mountain Pond, Stafford.  
Baldwin Pond, Meriden.  
Ball Pond, New Fairfield.  
Barber Pond, Bloomfield, Windsor.  
Bashan Lake, East Haddam.  
Beach Pond, Voluntown and Rhode Island.  
Beachdale Pond, Voluntown.  
Beaver Brook Ponds (Upper and Lower), Windham.  
Bigelow Pond, Union.  
Billings Lake, North Stonington.  
Black Pond, Meriden, Middlefield.  
Black Pond, Woodstock.  
Black Rock Flood Control Impoundment, Watertown.  
Black Rock Pond, Watertown.  
Blanchard Pond, New Canaan, Wilton.  
Broad Brook Mill Pond, East Windsor.  
Brookfield Pond, South Windsor.  
Cedar Lake, Chester.  
Clarks Pond, Hamden.  
Clarktown Pond, Orange.  
Cobbs Mill Pond, Weston.  
Colebrook Flood Control Impoundment, Colebrook and Massachusetts.  
Day Pond, Colchester.  
Dayton Pond, Wallingford.  
Disbrow Pond, New Fairfield.  
Dodge Pond, East Lyme.  
East Twin Lake, Salisbury.  
Enders Pond, Granby.  
Factory Pond, Redding, Wilton.  
Fitchville Pond, Bozrah.  
Fort Shantok Pond, Montville.  
Freshwater Pond, Enfield.  
Gardner Lake, Salem, Montville, Bozrah.  
Gay City Park Pond, Hebron.  
Gills Pond, Berlin.  
Hallville Pond, Preston.  
Hancock Brook Flood Control Pool, Plymouth.  
Harbor Pond, Colchester.  
Hewitt Pond (Lower Hewitt Pond), North Stonington.  
Higganum Reservoir, Haddam.  
Hop Brook Flood Control Pool, Middlebury.  
Hopeville Pond, Griswold.  
Horse Pond, Salem.  
Howells Pond, Hartland.

Johnson's Pond, Bolton.  
Lafayette Pond, Somers.  
Lake Stibbs, Southbury.  
Lantern Hill Pond, Ledyard, North Stonington.  
Little Pond, Thompson.  
Long Pond, Ledyard, North Stonington.  
Mad River Flood Control Impoundment, Winchester.  
Mansfield Training School Ponds, Mansfield.  
Mashapaug Lake, Union.  
Millers Pond, Ridgefield.  
Mohawk Pond, Cornwall, Goshen.  
Moosup Pond, Plainfield.  
Mt. Tom Pond, Morris, Litchfield, Washington.  
Naubesatuck Lake, Mansfield, Chaplin, Windham.  
Nells Rock Reservoir, Shelton.  
Northfield Brook Flood Control Pool, Litchfield.  
Norwich Pond, Lyme.  
Pages Millpond, North Branford.  
Paine Pond, Ashford.  
Pataconk Lake (Russell Jennings Pond), Chester.  
Roseland Lake, Woodstock.  
Saint Martha's Pond, Enfield.  
Salmon Brook Pond, Glastonbury.  
Schreeder Pond (Chatfield Hollow Pond), Killingworth.  
Shaw Lake (Hayward Lake), East Haddam.  
Silvermine Pond, New Canaan.  
Somersville Mill Pond, Somers.  
Southford Falls Pond, Oxford, Southbury.  
Starret Pond (Huntington Park Pond), Redding.  
Stillwater Pond, Torrington.  
Stratton Brook Park Pond, Simsbury.  
Tankerhoosen Lakes, Vernon.  
Tungsten Mine Park Pond, Trumbull.  
Twin Brooks Park Pond, Trumbull.  
Tyler Pond, Goshen.  
Uncas Lake (Hog Pond), Lyme.  
Upper Fulton Park Pond, Waterbury.  
Wards Millpond, Branford.  
Waumgumbaug Lake (Coventry Lake), Coventry.  
Wauregan Reservoir (Quinebaug Lake), Killingly.  
West Branch Reservoir (Hogback), Hartland, Colebrook.  
West Side Pond, Goshen.  
Wharton Pond, Wallingford.  
Lake Winfield, Plymouth.  
Woodruffs Pond, Hamden.

Wyassup Lake, North Stonington.

(3) The closed season for fishing in the following lakes and ponds shall be as specified.  
Beardsley Park Pond, Bridgeport. From midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Great Hollow Pond, Monroe. From midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Isinglass Reservoir (Far Mill Reservoir), Shelton. From midnight on December thirty-first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Lake Chamberlain, Bethany. From midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Lake McDonough (Compensating Reservoir), New Hartford, Barkhamsted. From midnight November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April. Fishing hours shall be from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. prevailing time, except opening day when fishing shall start at 6:00 a.m.

Lake Saltonstall, Branford, East Haven. From midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Maltby Lakes (#1, #2, #3), Orange, West Haven. From midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Mohegan Park Pond, Norwich. From midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Saugatuck Reservoir, Easton, Redding, Weston. From midnight on December thirty-first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Shelton Reservoir #2, Shelton. From midnight on December thirty-first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

Simsbury Town Park Ponds, Simsbury. From midnight on June fifteenth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

West Pequonnock Reservoir, Monroe. From midnight on December thirty-first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April.

(4) Children's Ponds. The closed season for fishing in the following posted children's ponds shall be from midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April, except as specified.

Abe Stone Park Pond (Colony Park Pond), Ansonia.

Bassett Pond, Brooklyn.  
Beachland Park Pond, West Hartford.  
Butternut Pond, East Windsor. Open season 6:00 a.m. third Saturday in April through October thirty-first.  
Center Springs Pond, Manchester.  
City Hall Pond, Milford.  
Clark Pond (Besse Pond), Torrington.  
Edgewood Park Pond, New Haven.  
Factory Pond, Salisbury.  
Fernridge Park Pond, West Hartford.  
Gould Manor Pond, Fairfield.  
Helen Keller School Pond, Easton.  
Hyde Park Pond, Glastonbury.  
Hurlburt Pond, Putnam.  
Katz Pond, Trumbull.  
Lilly Pond, Thompson.  
Lower Fulton Park Pond, Waterbury.  
McGovern Pond, West Hartford.  
Mill Pond, Newington.  
Mill Woods Park Pond, Wethersfield.  
Mirror Lake (Hubbard Park Pond), Meriden.  
North Street Pond, Milford.  
Orange Park Pond, Orange.  
Page Park Pond, Bristol.  
Pasture Pond, Glastonbury.  
Pasture Pond (Quinebaug Valley Trout Hatchery), Plainfield.  
Sochrin Pond, Seymour.  
Stanley Quarter Pond, New Britain.  
Stroh Pond, Windsor.  
Upper Basin Pond, Windsor Locks.  
Washington Park Pond, Windsor.

(5) Trophy Trout Lakes. The closed season for fishing in Trophy Trout Lakes listed in section 26-112-46 shall be as specified therein.

(6) Boundary Waters. The closed season for fishing in boundary waters listed in section 26-112-46 shall be as specified therein.

#### Sec. 26-112-45. Species limitations

(a) Alewives (*Alosa pseudoharengus*) and blueback herring (*Alosa aestivalis*).

(1) Alewives and blueback herring may be taken only by angling or scoop net, except that in streams open to fishing throughout the year alewives and blueback herring may also be taken by snagging or snatching.

(2) The taking of alewives and blueback herring by scoop net from June sixteenth through March thirty-first, both dates inclusive, is prohibited.



(3) In rivers and streams, the taking of alewives and blueback herring by angling and snagging or snatching from June sixteenth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April is prohibited.

(4) The taking of alewives and blueback herring from the section of Brides Brook, East Lyme, extending from the dam at Brides Pond downstream to Brides Brook Road is prohibited.

(5) Alewives and blueback herring shall not be taken from Saturday 12:00 midnight to Tuesday 12:00 midnight except in lakes and ponds, the main body of the Connecticut River, the main body of the Housatonic River, and the main body of the Thames River including the Shetucket River to the base of the Greenville Dam.

(6) The daily creel limit for alewives and blueback herring shall be twenty-five in the aggregate.

(b) American shad (*Alosa sapidissima*).

(1) American shad may be taken only by angling.

(2) In those streams open to fishing throughout the year the taking of American shad from July first through March thirty-first, both dates inclusive, is prohibited. In all other areas the taking of American shad from midnight on July first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April is prohibited, except as provided in section 26-112-45(b)(4).

(3) The daily creel limit for American shad shall be six, except as provided in section 26-112-45(b)(4).

(4) The open season for taking American shad from the Pawcatuck River, North Stonington-Stonington-Rhode Island, shall be as determined by Rhode Island regulations as authorized by section 20-1-12 of the General Laws of Rhode Island and the daily creel limit for American shad, in this area, shall be one.

(c) Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*).

(1) The taking of Atlantic salmon is prohibited, except that the Commissioner may, by declaration, allow the taking of Atlantic salmon during a specified period in specified waters when, in his judgment, such will not endanger the Atlantic salmon restoration and management program.

(2) During any period that the taking of Atlantic salmon is allowed, the commissioner may, by declaration, specify the angling methods allowed for the taking of Atlantic salmon.

(3) During any period that the taking of Atlantic salmon is allowed, the daily creel limit for Atlantic salmon shall be one and the minimum length shall be nine inches.

(4) The taking of Atlantic salmon in the main stem Connecticut River shall be as provided by the regulations of the Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission, as authorized by Chapter 494 of the General Statutes.

(d) Bait species. Bait species include the following species of fish, amphibians, aquatic insects and crustaceans to the exclusion of all other species: golden shiner or "pond shiner"

(*Notemigonus crysoleucas*), common shiner (*Notropis cornutus*), fallfish (*Semotilus corporalis*), creek chub (*Semotilus atromaculatus*), spottail shiner or "river bait" (*Notropis hudsonius*), bridle shiner (*Notropis bifrenatus*), blacknose dace (*Rhinichthys atratulus*), longnose dace (*Rhinichthys cataractae*), pearl dace (*Semotilus Margarita*), bluntnose minnow (*Pimephales notatus*), fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*), cutlips minnow (*Exoglossum maxillingua*), chub sucker (*Erimyzon oblongus*), white sucker (*Catostomus commersoni*), banded killfish (*Fundulus diaphanus*), mummichug (*Fundulus heteroclitus*), striped killfish (*Fundulus majalis*), tidewater silverside (*Menidia beryllina*), Atlantic silverside (*Menidia menidia*), sand lance or "sand eels" (*Ammodytes* spp.), frogs (except the northern leopard frog, *Rana pipiens*), crayfish, perch bugs, helgramites, and mayfly nymphs. Bait species may be taken only for personal use as bait and food and shall not be sold or offered for sale, except as provided in sections 26-142a-1 through

(1) Bait species may be taken by bait seine, bait trap, umbrella net, by hand, by scoop net and by angling, as provided below:

is prohibited, bait species may be taken at any time by bait traps not to exceed twenty inches in length and fifteen inches in diameter and by umbrella nets not to exceed four feet in length by four

(B) In all streams bait species may be taken at any time with bait seines not to exceed fifteen feet in length and four feet in depth. Bait seines shall not be used in lakes and ponds, except in those

commercial taking of bait. In such lakes and ponds bait seines not exceeding fifteen feet in length and four feet in width may be used to take bait species at any time of year.

by scoop net and by angling.

(e) Black bass. Black bass include largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) and smallmouth

(1) Black bass may be taken only by angling and ice fishing.

(2) The daily creel limit for black bass shall be six, except in Boundary Waters and Bass

26-112-48.

(3) There shall be no minimum length for black bass taken in streams, except in the Connecticut

black bass taken in lakes and ponds shall be twelve inches, except in Boundary Waters and Bass Management Areas as specified in section 26-112-46 and except as specified in section

(f) Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), white suckers (*Catostomus commersoni*), American eels (*Anguilla rostrata*), and sea lampreys (*Petromyzon marinus*). Carp, suckers, eels and lampreys may be taken

sections of streams stocked with trout, charr and/or salmon, these species may be taken only by angling or ice fishing. Spearing is prohibited in all lakes and ponds.

(1) Chain pickerel may be taken only by angling or ice fishing.

(2) There shall be no daily creel limit for chain pickerel taken in streams and the daily creel limit

section 26-112-46.

(3) There shall be no minimum length for chain pickerel taken in streams and the minimum length

specified in section 26-112-46.

(h) Northern pike (*Esox lucius*).

(2) The taking of northern pike from March first through April thirtieth, both dates inclusive, is prohibited in Bantam Lake and its tributaries, Litchfield-Morris.

through the last day of February, the daily creel limit for northern pike in Bantam Lake and its tributaries, Litchfield-Morris, shall be one.

(4) The minimum length for northern pike shall be twenty-six inches, except that in the Connecticut River and its coves the minimum length for northern pike shall be twenty-four inches and, during the period December 1 through the last day of February, the minimum length for northern pike in Bantam Lake and its tributaries, Litchfield-Morris, shall be thirty-six inches.

(i) Panfish. Panfish include yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*), white perch (*Morone americana*), calico bass (*Pomoxis* spp.), rock bass (*Ambloplites rupestris*), all species of catfish including bullheads (*Ictalurus* spp.) and all species of sunfish (*Lepomis* spp.) except banded sunfish (*Enneacanthus obesus*). Panfish may be taken only by angling, bobbing and ice fishing.

(j) Smelt (*Osmerus mordax*)

(1) Smelt may be taken in streams by angling, ice fishing and with scoop nets and may be taken in lakes and ponds only by angling and ice fishing.

(2) The taking of smelt in tributaries to Shenipsit Lake, Ellington-Tolland-Vernon and West Hill Pond, Barkhamsted-New Hartford is prohibited.

(3) The daily creel limit for smelt taken in streams shall be two gallons and the daily creel limit for smelt taken in lakes and ponds shall be fifty fish.

(k) Striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*)

(1) The daily creel limit for striped bass shall be two (2). The minimum length striped bass, measured from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail, shall be twenty-eight (28) inches. Except as provided for in Section 26-159a-2(d), no person in this state shall possess any striped bass less than the minimum length regardless where taken.

(2) Striped bass may be taken only by angling and the use of a gaff in the taking of striped bass is prohibited.

(l) Sturgeon (*Acipenser* spp.). The taking of sturgeon is prohibited.

(m) Trout, charr and kokanee. Trout, charr and kokanee include brown trout (*Salmo trutta*), rainbow trout (*Salmo gairdneri*), brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*), lake trout (*Salvelinus namaycush*) and kokanee (*Oncorhynchus nerka*).

(1) Trout, charr and kokanee may be taken only by angling and ice fishing.

(2) The taking of trout, charr and kokanee from March first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April is prohibited, except: in boundary waters, trout management areas and trophy trout lakes as listed in Section 26-112-46 as specified therein; in streams open to fishing throughout the year as listed in section 26-112-44 and as specified in section 26-112-48.

(3) The daily creel limit for trout, charr and kokanee shall be eight in the aggregate, not more than five of which may be trout or charr except: in Boundary Waters and Trout Management Areas listed in section 26-112-46 as specified therein; and in Trophy Trout Lakes as listed in section 26-112-46; as specified in section 26-112-48; and in streams open to fishing throughout the year as listed in section 26-112-44 where the daily creel limit shall be two.

(4) The minimum length for lake trout shall be twenty inches.

(5) There shall be no minimum length for trout (except lake trout), charr and kokanee except:

(A) In Trophy Trout Lakes and Trout Management Areas listed in section 26-112-46 as specified therein.

(B) In streams open to fishing throughout the year listed in section 26-112-44 where the minimum length shall be fifteen inches.

(C) In the following streams, or portions of streams, where the minimum length for trout and charr shall be nine inches.

Blackledge River, Marlborough - that portion downstream from Parker Road.

Burlington Brook, Burlington - that portion downstream from Covey Road.

Cherry Brook, Canton - that portion downstream from Route 179.

Dickinson Creek, Colchester, Marlborough - that portion downstream from Route 66.

East Branch of Salmon Brook, Granby - that portion downstream from the Connecticut-Massachusetts state line.

Farmington River, Avon, Bloomfield, Burlington, Canton, East Granby, Farmington, New Hartford, Simsbury, Windsor - that portion extending from the junction of the East and West Branches of the Farmington River downstream to the Rainbow Reservoir Dam.

Fawn Brook, Marlborough, Hebron - that portion downstream from Slocum Road.

Jeremy River, Colchester - that portion downstream from Greyville Road.

Judd Brook, Colchester, Hebron - that portion downstream from Old Colchester Road.

Meadow Brook, Colchester - that portion downstream from Route 16.

Morgan Brook, Barkhamsted - that portion downstream from the dam on West Hill Pond.

Raymond Brook, Hebron - that portion downstream from Old Colchester Road.

Salmon River, Colchester, East Hampton, East Haddam, Haddam - that portion extending from the junction of the Blackledge and Jeremy Rivers downstream to the Route 151 bridge.

Salmon Brook, East Granby, Granby.

Sandy Brook, Colebrook, Norfolk - that portion downstream from the Connecticut-Massachusetts state line.

Still River, Barkhamsted, Colebrook - that portion downstream from Robertsville Dam.

West Branch of Fawn Brook, Marlborough, Hebron - that portion downstream from Slocum Road.

West Branch of the Farmington River, Barkhamsted, Hartland, New Hartford - that portion downstream from Goodwin Dam.

West Branch of Salmon Brook, Granby - that portion downstream from Route 179.

- (n) Any fish or bait species taken contrary to this section shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which taken.
- (o) Marine finfish. Unless otherwise specified by section 26-112-45 of the regulations of Connecticut state agencies, the species limitations for marine finfish taken by sport fishing from the waters of this state shall be as specified in regulations adopted under authority of section 26-159a of the general statutes.
- (p) Walleye (*Stizostedion vitreum*).
  - (1) Walleye may be taken only by angling and ice fishing.
  - (2) The daily creel limit for walleye shall be five.
  - (3) The minimum length for walleye shall be fifteen inches.
- (q) Banded sunfish (*Enneacanthus obesus*). The taking of banded sunfish is prohibited.

#### Sec. 26-112-46. Special management areas

- (a) Boundary Waters. Boundary waters are defined as those lakes and ponds forming a common boundary between Connecticut and an adjoining state. Connecticut sport fishing regulations shall apply, except as provided herein.
  - (1) Beach Pond, Voluntown - Rhode Island. The closed season for fishing shall be from midnight on the last day in February through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April. Connecticut or Rhode Island fishing license legal on entire pond. Connecticut and Rhode Island regulations apply as follows: Black bass (largemouth and smallmouth): the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be twelve inches. Chain pickerel: the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be fourteen inches. Trout: the daily creel limit shall be five and there shall be no minimum length. Not more than six tip-ups may be used when ice fishing.
  - (2) Breakneck Pond, Union-Massachusetts. Connecticut or Massachusetts license legal on entire pond.
  - (3) Colebrook Flood Control Impoundment, Colebrook and Massachusetts. The closed season for fishing shall be from midnight on the last day in February through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April. Connecticut or Massachusetts fishing license legal on entire impoundment. Upstream demarcation line posted by Massachusetts.
  - (4) Congamond Lakes (South Pond, Middle Pond and North Pond), Suffield - Massachusetts. There shall be no closed season for fishing. Connecticut or Massachusetts fishing license legal on all three lakes. Massachusetts regulations apply as follows: Trout: the daily creel limit shall be six, during the period from the Saturday next preceding the third Monday in April, one hour before sunrise, through the Sunday following the third Saturday in October. Trout: the daily creel limit shall be three, during the period from the Monday following the third Saturday in October to the Saturday preceding the third Monday in April. Black bass (largemouth and smallmouth): the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be ten inches. Chain pickerel: the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be fourteen inches. Not more than two hooks may be used during periods of open water fishing and not more than five hooks may be used when ice fishing.
  - (5) Hamilton Reservoir, Union - Massachusetts. There shall be no closed season for fishing. Connecticut or Massachusetts fishing license legal on entire pond. Massachusetts regulations apply as follows: Trout: the daily creel limit shall be six, during the period from the Saturday next preceding the third Monday in April, one hour before sunrise, through the Sunday following

the third Saturday in October. Trout: the daily creel limit shall be three, during the period from the Monday following the third Saturday in October to the Saturday preceding the third Monday in April. Black bass (largemouth and smallmouth): the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be ten inches. Chain pickerel: the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be fourteen inches. Not more than two hooks may be used during periods of open water fishing and not more than five hooks may be used when ice fishing.

(6) Hazard Pond, Voluntown - Rhode Island. No closed season. Connecticut or Rhode Island fishing license legal on entire pond. Connecticut and Rhode Island regulations apply as follows: Black bass (largemouth and smallmouth): the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be twelve inches. Chain pickerel: the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be fourteen inches. Not more than six tip-ups may be used when ice fishing.

(7) Indian Pond, Sharon - New York. The closed season for fishing shall be from midnight on March thirty-first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April. Connecticut or New York license legal on entire pond. New York regulations apply as follows: Black bass (largemouth and smallmouth): The closed season for the taking of black bass shall be from midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April, the daily creel limit shall be six and the minimum length shall be twelve inches. Not more than five tip-ups and two hand held jigs may be used for ice fishing.

(8) Keach Pond, Thompson - Putnam - Rhode Island. Connecticut or Rhode Island license legal on entire pond. Rhode Island regulations apply.

(9) Killingly Pond, Killingly - Rhode Island. No closed season. Connecticut or Rhode Island fishing license legal on entire pond. Connecticut and Rhode Island regulations apply as follows: Black bass (largemouth and smallmouth): the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be twelve inches. Chain pickerel: the daily creel limit shall be five and the minimum length shall be fourteen inches. Not more than six tip-ups may be used when ice fishing.

(10) Muddy Pond, Woodstock - Massachusetts. Connecticut or Massachusetts fishing license legal on entire pond.

(b) Fly Fishing Only Areas. In the following waters or portions thereof, as indicated by posters, fishing is restricted to fly fishing only.

Bantam River (outlet), Morris, Litchfield.

Hewitt Flyfishing Pond (Gallup Pond), North Stonington.

Housatonic River, Cornwall, Sharon.

Moosup River, Plainfield.

Salmon River, Colchester.

Saugatuck River, Westport, from Dorr's Mill Dam to Merritt Parkway.

Willimantic River, Tolland, Willington

Yantic River, Lebanon, above Johnsons Bridge and Bozrah.

(c.) Trout Management Areas.

(1) The Housatonic River Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Housatonic River in Salisbury, Canaan, Sharon, and Cornwall from the bridge at Route 112 downstream to the bridge at Routes 4 and 7. There shall be no closed season for trout and charr in the Housatonic River Trout Management Area, except that those portions of this trout management area within one hundred feet of the mouths of tributary streams, as indicated by signs posted by the

department of environmental protection, shall be closed to all fishing during the period June fifteenth through August thirty-first. Fishing within a subarea of the Housatonic River Trout Management Area as indicated by signs posted by the department of environmental protection is restricted to fly fishing only. The daily creel limit for trout and charr in the Housatonic River Trout Management Area is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. Possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Housatonic River Trout Management Area is prohibited.

(2) The Willimantic River Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Willimantic River in Tolland and Willington from the mouth of Roaring Brook downstream to the bridge at Route 74. Fishing in this area is restricted to the use of flies only. There shall be no closed season for trout and charr in the Willimantic River Trout Management Area. The daily creel limit for trout and charr in this area is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. Possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Willimantic River Trout Management Area is prohibited.

(3) The Mianus River Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Mianus River in Stamford, from Merrybrook Road to the dam approximately one mile upstream, as indicated by signs posted by the department of environmental protection. There shall be no closed season for trout and charr in this area and the minimum length for trout and charr taken shall be nine inches. During the period March first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April, fishing in this area is restricted to single hook artificial lures only, the daily creel limit for trout and charr is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. During this period possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Mianus River Trout Management Area is prohibited. During the period 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday ii, April through the last day in February, the daily creel limit in the Mianus River Trout Management Area for any combination of trout and charr is three.

(4) The West Branch - Farmington River Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Farmington River in Barkhamsted and New Hartford from approximately one mile upstream of the bridge at Route 318 downstream to the bridge at Route 219, as indicated by signs posted by the department of environmental protection. Fishing in this area is restricted to the use of barbless hooks only. There shall be no closed season for trout and charr in the West Branch - Farmington River Trout Management Area; the daily creel limit for trout and charr in the West Branch - Farmington River Trout Management Area is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken; possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of this area is prohibited.

(5) The Hammonasset River Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Hammonasset River in Killingworth and Madison, from the Lake Hammonasset Dam downstream to Chestnut Hill Road. During the period September first through 6:00 A.M. on the third Saturday in April, the daily creel limit for trout and charr is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. During this period possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Hammonasset River Trout Management Area is prohibited. During the period 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April through the last day in August, the daily creel limit in the Hammonasset River Trout Management Area for any combination of trout and charr is three and the minimum length for any such trout and charr taken shall be nine inches.

(6) The Mill River Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Mill River in Fairfield,

from the Merritt Parkway Bridge downstream to Lake Mohegan. There shall be no closed season for trout and charr in this area and the minimum length for trout and charr taken shall be nine inches. During the period March first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April, the daily creel limit for trout and charr is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. During this period possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Mill River Trout Management Area is prohibited. During the period 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of April through the last day in February, the daily creel limit in the Mill River Trout Management Area for any combination of trout and charr is three.

(7) The Moosup River Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Moosup River in Plainfield from the bridge at Route 14 downstream to the junction with the Quinebaug River. Fishing within a subarea of the Moosup River Trout Management Area as indicated by signs posted by the department of environmental protection is restricted to fly fishing only. During the period January first through December thirty-first, the daily creel limit for trout and charr is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. Possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Moosup River Trout Management Area is prohibited.

(8) The Salmon River Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Salmon River in Colchester, from the junction of the Blackledge and Jeremy Rivers downstream to the Old Browns Mill Dam. Fishing within a subarea of the Salmon River Trout Management Area as indicated by signs posted by the department of environmental protection is restricted to fly fishing only. During the period of 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April through the last day in August, the daily creel limit for any such trout and charr in any combination shall be five and the minimum length for any such trout and charr taken shall be nine inches. During the period September first to 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April, the daily creel limit for trout and charr is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. During this period possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Salmon River Trout Management Area is prohibited.

(9) The Farmington River Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Farmington River in Avon-Burlington, from the base of the Lower Collinsville Dam downstream approximately three miles to the Route 4 bridge. On and after January 1, 1997, and until December 31, 2000, there shall be no closed season for trout and charr in this area. During the period March first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April, the daily creel limit for trout and charr is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. During the period March first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April, possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Farmington River Trout Management Area is prohibited. During the period of 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April through the last day in February, the daily creel limit for any such trout and charr in any combination shall be five and the minimum length for any such trout and charr taken shall be nine inches. On and after January 1, 2001, the closed season in this area shall be from midnight on the last day in February through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April and the daily creel limit for trout and charr taken during the period of 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April through the last day in February shall be five in any combination.

(10) The Bladens Brook Trout Management Area shall be that portion of Bladens Brook, Seymour, known as "Legion Pool" and extending from Chatfield Street upstream approximately



270 feet to the footbridge across Bladens Brook. The closed season for fishing in this area shall be from midnight on the last day of February through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April. During the period of 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April through the last day in February, the daily creel limit for trout and charr in the Bladens Brook Trout Management Area is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. Possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Bladens Brook Trout Management Area is prohibited.

(d) Trophy Trout Lakes. In the following lakes the closed season for fishing shall be from midnight on March thirty-first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April. During the period March first through March thirty-first the daily creel limit for trout and charr shall be two and the minimum length shall be sixteen (16) inches, except as otherwise specified herein. For the purposes of this subsection, "slot limit lengths" shall mean the lengths between which fish may not be retained and all fish equal to or greater than the lower limit but less than the upper limit must be released, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which taken.

Amos Lake, Preston.

Candlewood Lake (including Squantz Pond), New Fairfield, Danbury, New Milford, Sherman, Brookfield.

Crystal Lake, Ellington, Stafford. The slot limit lengths for trout and charr shall be from twelve (12) inches to sixteen (16) inches total length. The daily creel limit for trout and charr shall be five, not more than one of which may equal or exceed sixteen (16) inches in total length.

East Twin Lake, Salisbury. On and after January 1, 1993, and until December 31, 1997, the closed season for taking brown trout shall be from midnight on May thirty-first through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April. During the closed season for brown trout, possession of brown trout in the waters or on the shores of East Twin Lake is prohibited. The slot limit lengths for brown trout shall be from fourteen (14) inches to twenty-two (22) inches total length. The daily creel limit for brown trout shall be five, not more than one of which may equal or exceed twenty-two (22) inches in total length. On and after January 1, 1998, the closed season in this area shall be from midnight on the last day in February through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April and the daily creel limit for trout and charr taken during the period of 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April through the last day in February shall be five in the aggregate.

Highland Lake, Winchester. The slot limit lengths for trout and charr shall be from twelve (12) inches to sixteen (16) inches total length. The daily creel limit for trout and charr shall be five, not more than one of which may equal or exceed sixteen (16) inches in total length.

Quonnipaug Lake, Guilford. The slot limit lengths for trout and charr shall be from twelve (12) inches to sixteen (16) inches total length. The daily creel limit for trout and charr shall be five, not more than one of which may equal or exceed sixteen (16) inches in total length.

Rogers Lake, Lyme, Old Lyme.

West Hill Pond, New Hartford, Barkhamsted.

(e) Special use of streams by disabled persons. The Department of Environmental Protection is authorized to set aside sections of streams for temporary use by groups of disabled persons from state institutions, veteran or similar organizations, upon written request, and under conditions as specified by the department.

(f) Bass Management Areas. In addition to the provisions of section 26-112-45, the following provisions shall apply in the following listed waters. For the purposes of this subsection slot limit length shall mean the lengths between which fish may not be retained. All fish equal to or greater than the lower limit and less than the upper limits must be released, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which taken.

Lake Chamberlain, Bethany. The slot limit lengths for black bass shall be from twelve (12) inches to sixteen (16) inches total length. The daily creel limit for black bass shall be six, not more than one of which may equal or exceed sixteen (16) inches in total length.

Lake Saltonstall, Branford - East Haven. The slot limit lengths for black bass shall be from twelve (12) inches to eighteen (18) inches total length. The daily creel limit for black bass shall be six, not more than one of which may equal or exceed eighteen (18) inches in total length.

Maltby Lakes (#1, #2, #3), Orange, West Haven. The slot limit lengths for black bass shall be from twelve (12) inches to sixteen (16) inches total length. The daily creel limit for black bass shall be six, not more than one of which may equal or exceed sixteen (16) inches in total length.

Moodus Reservoir, East Haddam. The minimum length for black bass shall be fifteen inches.

Pickerel Lake, Colchester - East Haddam. The slot limit lengths for black bass shall be from twelve (12) inches to fifteen (15) inches total length.

(g) Wild Trout Management Areas.

(1) The Belding Wild Trout Management Area shall be that portion of the Tankerhoosen River and its tributaries contained within the Belding Wildlife Management Area (Vernon) and as indicated by signs posted by the Department of Environmental Protection. On and after January 1, 1994 and until December 31, 1999: the closed season for fishing in this area shall be from midnight on September thirtieth through December thirty-first. Fishing in this area is restricted to barbless single-hook artificial lures and barbless single-hook flies. The daily creel limit for trout and charr in this area is zero and all trout and charr caught shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the water from which taken. Possession of trout or charr in the waters or on the shores of the Belding Wild Trout Management Area is prohibited. On or after January 1, 2000, the closed season in this area shall be from midnight on the last day in February through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April and the daily creel limit for trout and charr taken during the period of 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April through the last day in February shall be five in the aggregate.

Sec. 26-112-47. State-controlled fishing areas

(a) Enfield Dam Shad Fishing Area. The Enfield Dam Shad Fishing Area shall include the west bank of the Connecticut River in Suffield from the head gates of the Windsor Locks Canal downstream as indicated by posters. In this area the following provisions shall apply:

(1) Daily permits are required when an attendant is on duty at the entrance to the area, and shall be secured from the attendant. A permit fee of up to one dollar per licensed angler may be charged.

(2) There shall be no fishing in the canal or from the dam.

(3) Fishing is permitted only within the area designated by posters.

(4) Persons under sixteen years of age shall be accompanied by a licensed angler over twenty-one years of age.

(5) Swimming within the state controlled area is prohibited.

(6) Firearms and dogs are prohibited within the state controlled area.

(b) Quinebaug Valley Trout Hatchery Public Fishing Ponds. The public fishing ponds at the Quinebaug Valley Trout Hatchery - Plainfield may be open to public fishing and daily permits or permits for specific hourly periods may be required. A permit fee of up to one dollar may be charged. Anglers shall be limited one permit per day. Persons under sixteen years of age shall be accompanied by a licensed angler over twenty-one years of age. These ponds shall be managed so as to obtain data concerning catch, catch per unit of effort and method of angling. Legal methods of angling, daily limit, open season, legal angling hours, minimum lengths, areas open to angling, the number of anglers using these ponds and any other special condition governing the use of these ponds shall be determined by the Department of Environmental Protection and posted at each pond or stated on the permits issued by the department.

#### Sec. 26-112-48. Miscellaneous restrictions

(a) In the following waters the indicated miscellaneous restrictions shall apply:

Bog Meadow Pond, Norwich. The use of boats and canoes is prohibited.

East Twin Lake, Salisbury. The use of radios by fishermen is prohibited from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. prevailing time.

Hewitt Pond (Lower Hewitt Pond), North Stonington. The use of boats and canoes is prohibited.

Isinglass Reservoir (Far Mill Reservoir), Shelton. Ice fishing is prohibited.

Messerchmidt's Pond, Deep River, Westbrook. The operation of boats with internal combustion engines is prohibited.

Quassapaug Lake, Middlebury, Woodbury. The closed season for fishing shall be from midnight on November thirtieth through 6:00 a.m. on the third Saturday in April. Icefishing is prohibited. The daily creel limit for trout and charr shall be one and the minimum length shall be eighteen inches. The daily creel limit for black bass shall be one and the minimum length shall be eighteen inches.

Saugatuck Reservoir, Easton, Redding, Weston. Ice fishing is prohibited.

Shelton Reservoir #2, Shelton. Ice fishing is prohibited.

Trap Falls Reservoir, Shelton. The closed season for fishing shall be from midnight on November thirtieth through midnight on June thirtieth. Ice fishing is prohibited. The daily creel limit for black bass shall be two and the minimum length shall be sixteen inches.

West Pequonnock Reservoir, Monroe. Ice fishing is prohibited.

(b)(1) In reclaimed waters the use of fish, alive or dead, as bait, is prohibited when so posted.

The possession on such waters or the shores of such waters of any species of fish, alive or dead, except trout, charr or salmon, is prohibited when so posted.

(2) In the following waters where it would be contrary to good fishery management practice to use any live alewives, blueback (glut or river) herring, gizzard, hickory or threadfin shad as bait, the use of live individuals of these species as bait is prohibited. The possession on such waters or the shores of such waters of any live individuals of these species, is prohibited.

Alexander Lake, Killingly.

Colebrook Flood Control Impoundment, Colebrook and Massachusetts.

East Twin Lake, Salisbury.

Lake Pocotopaug, East Hampton

Saugatuck Reservoir, Easton, Redding, Weston.

Shenipsit Lake, Ellington, Tolland, Vernon.

Waumgumbaug Lake (Coventry Lake), Coventry.

West Branch Reservoir (Hogback), Hartland, Colebrook.

West Hill Pond, New Hartford, Barkhamsted.

West Twin Lake, Salisbury.

Wononscopomuc Lake, Salisbury.

## PROHIBITED ACTS

### Sec. 26-114-1. Prohibited acts

(a) No person shall buy, sell or exchange, offer for sale or exchange or possess with intent to sell or exchange, any species of salmon including Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), coho (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), sockeye or kokanee (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) or chinook (*Oncorhynchus tshawtsca*) taken in Connecticut waters.

(b) No person shall construct for the purpose of taking fish, any rack, screen, weir, wing dam or other obstruction in any stream or in the outlet of any pond or stream, unless so authorized by a commercial hatchery license issued pursuant to section 26-149 of the general statutes.

(c.) No person shall take, or attempt to take fish by means of any rack, screen, weir, wing dam or other obstruction in any stream or in the outlet of any pond or stream, unless so authorized by a

commercial hatchery license issued pursuant to section 26-149 of the general statutes.

## PRIVATE WATERS

### Sec. 26-131-1. Private waters

Owners of private waters registered with the Department of Environmental Protection as provided by the General Statutes, and their guests, may remove any species of fish from such waters by any method, except by the use of chemicals or explosives. Fish taken from such waters may be removed from the premises, possessed and transported without regard to open and closed seasons, legal lengths or daily creel limits, provided such fish are dead and shall be packaged and the package containing such fish, shall have attached thereto a tag or label bearing legible writing showing the registration number issued for such water by the Department of Environmental Protection, the name and address of the owner of such water, the number and species of fish contained therein, the date such fish were removed from such water and the name and address of the person removing such fish from the water. Such fish shall not be sold, offered for sale or exchanged. The owner of such water shall not allow fish to be removed from the premises alive. No fee may be charged for the privilege of fishing in such waters.

## PRIVATELY STOCKED WATERS

### Sec. 26-132-1. Privately stocked waters

Any association owning or controlling the fishing rights in any stream or pond, the waters of which are stocked with fish by such association at no expense to the state, may request special open and closed seasons, daily creel and season limits, and legal lengths of species taken from such waters, under the provisions of Section 26-132 of the General Statutes, on forms provided by the Department of Environmental Protection. Information required may include but may need not be limited to: the full name and address of the association; name, location and description of such waters; full name and address of the owner(s) of such waters and if the applicant does not own the waters, proof of the control of fishing rights. Any such request approved by the Commissioner under the provisions of this section shall be in letter form to the applicant and shall expire on December 31st of the year of approval.

## COMMERCIAL FISHING IN THE INLAND AND MARINE DISTRICTS

### Sec. 26-142a-1. Species

Subject to the provisions of section 26-142a-3a through section 26-142a-7a of these regulations, only the following species may be taken for commercial purposes in those areas of the inland district described in section 26-142a-2 hereof:

- (a) Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*)
- (b) Common sucker (*Catostomus commersoni*)
- (c) American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*)
- (d) Sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*)

- (e) Rainbow smelt (*Osmerus mordax*)
- (f) Atlantic tomcod or "frostfish" (*Microgadus tomcod*)
- (g) Hickory shad (*Alosa mediocris*)
- (h) American shad (*Alosa sapidissima*)
- (i) Alewife (*Alosa pseudoharengus*)
- (j) Blueback (glut or river) herring (*Alosa aestivalis*)
- (k) White perch (*Morone americana*)
- (l) Yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*)
- (m) Catfish species (*Ictalurus* spp.)
- (n) Bait species. The following species of minnows and other bait species only may be taken commercially for sale as bait: (1) golden shiner or "pond shiner" (*Notemigonus crysoleucas*); (2) common shiner (*Notropis cornutus*); (3) fallfish (*Semotilus corporalis*); (4) creek chub (*Semotilus atromaculatus*); (5) spottail shiner "river bait" (*Notropis hudsonius*); (6) bridle shiner (*Notropis bifrenatus*); (7) blacknose dace (*Rhinichthys atratulus*); (8) longnose dace (*Rhinichthys cataractae*); (9) pearl dace (*Semotilus margarita*); (10) bluntnose minnow (*Pimephales notatus*); (11) fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*); (12) cutlips minnow (*Exoglossum maxillingua*); (13) chub sucker (*Erimyzon oblongus*); (14) banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus*); (15) mummichug (*Fundulus heteroclitus*); (16) striped killifish (*Fundulus majalis*); (17) Tidewater silverside (*Menidia beryllina*); (18) Atlantic Silverside (*Menidia menidia*); (19) frogs (except northern leopard frog, *Rana pipiens*); (20) perch bugs; (21) helgramites; (22) mayfly nymphs; (23) other aquatic insects; (24) crayfish.
- (o) Any species of crustaceans, provided lobsters and blue crabs shall meet minimum legal size requirements and be taken by legal methods, as specified in Title 26, Chapter 490 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

#### Sec. 26-142a-2. Locations

In the inland district commercial fishing is permitted only in the following areas:

- (a) Connecticut River system:
  - (1) The main body of the river from the 1-95 highway bridge at Old Saybrook- Old Lyme to the Massachusetts-Connecticut state line.
  - (2) The coves and portions of tributaries which are subject to tidal fluctuation except the Farmington River and its coves and flood waters and the Salmon River and its coves and flood waters.
  - (3) The temporary or seasonal pools formed by the flood waters of the Connecticut River.
  - (4) That portion of the Hockanum River lying within the boundaries of the township of East Hartford.
  - (5) Bait species as defined in section 26-142a-1 (n) may be taken for commercial purposes in the Hockanum River and its impoundments or portions of impoundments within the township of East Hartford.
  - (6) That portion of the Blackhall River which lies within the inland district and which is subject to tidal fluctuation.
  - (7) That portion of the Lieutenant River which lies within the inland district and which is subject to tidal fluctuations.
- (b) Housatonic River system:

- (1) The main body of the river from the Merrill Parkway upstream to the Derby electric plant in Derby.
- (2) The coves and portions of tributaries subject to tidal fluctuation.
- (3) The temporary or seasonal pools formed by the flood waters of the Housatonic River within the limits established by (1) above.
- (4) The impoundments known as Lake Housatonic and Lake Zoar may be fished commercially for eels, carp and suckers only.
- (c) Quinnipiac River system:
  - (1) The main body of the river lying between the marine-inland district demarcation line and a point five hundred feet downstream of the Hanover Dam, Meriden.
  - (2) The coves and portions of tributaries subject to tidal fluctuation.
  - (3) Bait species may be taken for commercial purposes in the river and its impoundments to a point five hundred feet downstream of the Hanover Dam, Meriden.
- (d) Thames River system:
  - (1) The main body of the river which lies within the inland district and which is subject to tidal fluctuation.
  - (2) The coves and portions of tributaries subject to tidal fluctuation.
  - (3) The temporary or seasonal pools caused by flood waters within the limits established by (1) above.
- (e) Quinebaug River system: Bait species may be taken for commercial purposes in the main body of the river from the Massachusetts state line downstream to the bridge on Route 6 at Danielson and from its impoundments or portions of impoundments from the Massachusetts state line downstream to Providence Street in Putnam.
- (f) French River system:
  - (1) The main body of the river lying within the boundaries of the township of Thompson.
  - (2) Bait species may be taken for commercial purposes in the main body of the river and its impoundments lying within the township of Thompson.
- (g) Shetucket River system:
  - (1) Bait species may be taken for commercial purposes in the main body of the river and its impoundments from the junction of the Willimantic River and Natchaug River downstream to the Scotland Dam, Windham.
  - (2) Bait species may be taken for commercial purposes in the main body of the river and its impoundments from the Route 97 bridge in Sprague downstream to the bridge on Route 12 in Lisbon-Norwich.

Sec. 26-142a-3a. Area-gear restrictions

- (a) No commercial fishing gear shall be used for taking any fish in that portion of North Cove, as indicated by posters and known as Fall River, in the township of Essex.
- (b) Pound nets and trap nets shall not be used to take any fish in the area lying between lines drawn south in Long Island Sound to the New York state line from Fenwick Dock, Old Saybrook, and from Mill Creek (Mile Creek), Old Lyme.
- (c) No pound net shall be set less than five thousand two hundred and eighty (5280) feet from the documented location of any other pound net.
- (d) No fixed commercial fishing gear shall be set at any time within any navigable channel as

indicated by United States Coast Guard channel markers or within any fairway as designated by an approved harbor management plan adopted under Chapter 444a of the General Statutes. No fixed fishing gear shall be set in any mooring area as designated by an approved harbor management plan adopted under Chapter 444a of the General Statutes during the period May 1 through October 15. For the purposes of this section, fairway is defined as a harbor channel which is not marked by United States Coast Guard channel markers but is designated as a navigation channel in an approved harbor management plan; mooring area is defined as an area in which vessels are commonly moored with permanent mooring tackle, and fixed commercial fishing gear means the following: gill nets anchored or tied in a fixed position; trap nets; fyke nets; pound nets; and the buoys of fish pots, eel pots, or lobster pots including those set by holders of the personal use lobster license.

#### Sec. 26-142a-4. Seasons

- (a) There shall be no closed season on carp, suckers, eels and minnows taken for commercial purposes in the waters described in section 26-142a-2.
- (b) The closed season for the taking of yellow perch, white perch, and catfish species for commercial purposes shall be April first to September thirtieth inclusive except that catfish species may be taken as a species incidental to the shad fishery subject to the provisions of section 26-142a-6(c)(2)(a).
- (c) The closed season for taking of American shad for commercial purposes shall be June sixteenth to March thirty-first inclusive and no shad shall be taken for commercial purposes from Friday night at sundown to Sunday night at sundown.
- (d) The closed season for taking of alewives and blueback (glut or river) herring for commercial purposes shall be June sixteenth to March thirty-first inclusive, and no alewives or blueback (glut or river) herring shall be taken for commercial purposes from Friday night at sundown to Sunday night at sundown except by scoop nets or sport fishing.
- (e) The closed season for the taking of rainbow smelt for commercial purposes shall be April sixteenth to the last day in February inclusive.
- (f) The closed season for the taking of tomcod for commercial purposes shall be April sixteenth to November thirtieth inclusive.
- (g) The closed season for the taking of blue crabs for any purpose shall be December first to April thirtieth inclusive.
- (h) In addition to the restrictions specified in section 26-154a (b) of the General Statutes, the closed season for the taking of menhaden by the use of a purse seine shall be from the Saturday following the third Friday in October through the Sunday preceding the third Monday in May.

#### Sec. 26-142a-5. Closed season for fyke, trap and pound nets in the Connecticut River

From April first to June fifteenth, both inclusive, fyke, trap and pound nets shall not be used in the main body of the Connecticut River. Nothing herein shall be construed so as to prevent the use of minnow traps as described in section 26-142a-6(f) in the Connecticut River during the period April first to June fifteenth.

#### Sec. 26-142a-6. Mesh size and specifications



Nets of any type used for commercial fishing shall conform to the mesh size and specifications herein described:

(a) The bowl of pounds, trap nets and fykes shall have a mesh of not less than two inches when stretched.

(b) Seines shall have a mesh of not less than two and one-half inches when stretched, except that: (1) seines used for taking shad shall have a mesh of not less than five inches when stretched; (2) seines used for taking lamprey eels shall have a mesh of not less than two inches when stretched; and (3) seines used for taking smelt or tomcod also known as "frostfish", shall have a mesh of not less than one and one-half inches when stretched and fifty feet of the center or bunt of such seine shall be not less than one and one-quarter inches when stretched.

(c) Gill nets

(1) In the inland district, gill nets shall have a mesh of not less than five inches when stretched except that nets used for taking white perch, catfish species and yellow perch shall have a mesh of not less than three and one half inches when stretched.

(2) In the marine district gill nets shall have a mesh of not less than three inches when stretched with the following exceptions: (a) gill nets used for taking American shad shall have a mesh of not less than five inches when stretched, (b) gill nets used for taking rainbow smelt and tomcod shall have a mesh of not less than one and one-quarter inches when stretched and (c) gill nets used for taking white perch, catfish species and yellow perch shall have a mesh of not less than three and one-half inches when stretched.

(3) The use of gillnets constructed of a single strand or multiple strands of material known as monofilament is prohibited for the taking of American shad from sunrise to sunset. The twine thickness of any such gillnet shall be no greater than .28mm diameter (#69).

(d) Scap nets or scoop nets may have a mesh of any size, except that for the taking American shad such nets shall have a mesh size of not less than five inches when stretched.

(e) Minnow seines and traps for the taking of bait species only may have a mesh of any size.

(f) Minnow traps for the taking of bait species only shall have a length of not more than thirty-six inches and a diameter of not more than eighteen inches. Such traps shall be equipped with not more than two funnels and the entrance opening shall not exceed one and one-half inches in diameter. Such traps shall not be equipped with leaders or wings.

(g) Bottom trawl nets

(1) Bottom trawl nets, also known as otter trawls, shall have a minimum codend mesh size as follows: (A) during the period November 15 through June 30 inclusive, the codend mesh size shall be not less than five and one-half inches (diamond mesh) or six inches (square mesh) except that, for the taking of squid during the period May 15 through June 30, codends with a mesh smaller than specified in this subdivision may be used and not more than one hundred pounds of winter flounder may be possessed while fishing with the smaller mesh; (B) during the period July 1 through November 14 inclusive, the codend mesh size shall be not less than four inches (diamond mesh) or four and one-half inches (square mesh) except that for the taking of squid during the period July 1 through July 31, codends with a mesh smaller than specified in this subdivision may be used and not more than one hundred pounds of winter flounder may be possessed during the period July 1 through November 14 inclusive while fishing with mesh smaller than that specified in subparagraph (A) of this subdivision; (C) for the taking of Atlantic (sea) herring between November 1 and April 30, a fly net with a codend mesh of any size may be used except that not more than one hundred pounds of winter flounder may be possessed while

fishing with mesh smaller than that specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision;

(2) For the purpose of this subsection, codend is defined as the retaining bag of the net and the minimum size shall be the maximum opening of any single mesh measured when wet after use, and shall be represented by the median of eleven consecutive measurements taken at least five meshes from the lacings parallel to the longitudinal axis of the net. A fly net is defined as an otter trawl constructed of a minimum of eight inch stretch mesh webbing in the wings and forward body (belly) section extending at least thirty-five meshes or twenty-three feet along the longitudinal axis of the net.

(3) The use of any means, device or material including but not limited to ropes, lines, liners, net strengtheners, or double nets which obstructs or diminishes the size of the meshes in the top of the codend, or that part which does not contact the seabed during normal fishing activity, is prohibited. All netting in trawl nets not made on a braiding machine, whether of braided or twisted twine, whether machine or hand made, shall use only one knot, the weavers knot or sheet bend. The ends of the twine, called bars, that exit the knot shall be constructed so their lay does not cross or twist.

(4) Use of any codend with a mesh size less than the specified minimum size on any vessel fishing in Connecticut waters is prohibited and possession of any such codend on any vessel fishing in Connecticut waters is prohibited unless such codend is stored off the main deck and unavailable for immediate use.

(5) No bottom trawl net shall be equipped with rollers or cookies (hard rubber disks on the sweep of the net) in excess of six inches in diameter.

#### Sec. 26-142a-7a. Species - area limitations

##### (a) American shad

(1) In the inland district American shad shall not be taken except as provided by section 26-112-45(b) of the regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and American shad may be taken with nets for commercial purposes only in the main body of the Connecticut River from the I-95 highway bridge in Old Saybrook-Old Lyme to the William H. Putnam Memorial Bridge on Route 3, Glastonbury-Wethersfield.

(2) In the marine district the following restrictions shall apply to the taking of American shad:

(A) shad shall not be netted between lines drawn south in Long Island Sound to the New York State line from Menunketesuck Point, Westbrook and from Hatchett Point, Old Lyme except with seines, pounds and gill nets. (B) the taking of shad by commercial fishing methods is prohibited in the Pawcatuck River upstream from a line drawn southerly from the southern extremity of Pawcatuck Point to the Connecticut-Rhode Island State line.

##### (b) Alewives and Blueback (Glut or River) Herring

(1) Alewives and blueback herring shall not be taken in the inland district except as provided by section 26-112-4-5(a) of the regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and may be taken with nets for commercial purposes only in the main body of the Connecticut River from the I-95 highway bridge in Old Saybrook-Old Lyme to the William H. Putnam Memorial Bridge on Route 3 in Glastonbury-Wethersfield, in the main body of the Housatonic River from Route 1 upstream to the Derby electric plant below Derby Dam, in the main body of the Quinnipiac River from the bridge on Route 17, New Haven to the bridge on Route 22, North Haven, and the main body of

the Thames River which lies within the inland district and which is subject to tidal fluctuation.

(2) Alewives and blueback herring shall not be taken in the marine district from Saturday night 12:00 midnight to Tuesday night 12:00 midnight except in those portions of the main body of the Connecticut River, the main body of the Housatonic River, and the main body of the Thames River lying South of the inland district demarcation line.

(c) White Perch, Catfish species and Yellow Perch: In the inland district, and subject to the provisions of sections 26-176 and 26-181 of the General Statutes and section 26-142a-4 (b) of these regulations, white perch, catfish species and yellow perch may be taken for commercial purposes only in (1) the Connecticut River, its coves and flood waters from the I-95 highway bridge in Old Saybrook-Old Lyme to Whalebone Creek range light number forty but not including Hamburg Cove and the Eight Mile River in the township of Lyme eastward of a north-south line extending through the red and black nun channel marker at the entrance of the Eight Mile River and not including Whalebone Creek or Hadlyme cove in the township of Lyme and (2) the Thames River, its coves and flood waters from 500 feet north of the I-95 bridge, New London to the Mohegan-Pequot Bridge, Montville-Preston.

#### Sec. 26-142a-8a. Species restrictions

(a) Blue Crabs. No person shall take or attempt to take any blue crabs in any waters of this state except by scoop or scap net, handline or manually operated and personally attended devices described below:

(1) Manually closed, caging devices similar to the Star Crab Trap manufactured by the Cuba Specialty Manufacturing Company, Houghton, New York.

(2) Circular, topless traps not exceeding twenty-six (26) inches in diameter.

(3) Semicircular cylindrical traps not exceeding twelve (12) inches in diameter with hinged entrances or ends controlled by drawstrings.

No person shall take, offer for sale or possess at any time any female blue crab bearing eggs visible thereon or from which the egg pouch or bunion has been removed. No person shall take, offer for sale or possess any hard shell blue crab measuring, less than five inches across the shell (carapace) from tip to tip of spikes; but soft shell blue crabs not less than three and one-half inches across the shell from tip to tip of spikes may be taken, sold and possessed. No person on the waters of this state or on any parcel of land, structure, or portion of a roadway abutting tidal waters shall possess any uncooked blue crab meat without the shell (carapace) attached. No more than two claws per crab may be possessed.

Any blue crabs taken contrary to these regulations shall, without avoidable injury, be returned immediately to the water from which taken.

(b) Minimum Legal Length. No person shall possess any fish taken by any commercial fishing gear or for commercial purposes less than the lengths specified below measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail and, notwithstanding section 26-159a-4 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, no person shall buy, sell, offer for sale or possess in a place where fish are offered for sale, any of said species less than the minimum legal length stated herein.

(1) Atlantic tomcod (frostfish) (*Microgadus tomcod*) - 7 inches

(2) Tautog (blackfish) (*Tautoga onitis*) - 14 inches

(3) Scup (porgy) (*Stenotomus chrysops*) - 8 inches

(4) Black sea bass (*Centropristis striata*) - 8 inches

- (5) Winter flounder (*Pleuronectes americanus*) - 12 inches
- (6) Bluefish (*Pomatomus saltatrix*) - 9 inches
  
- (7) Summer flounder (fluke) (*Paralichthys dentatus*) - 14 inches
- (8) Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) - 19 inches
- (9) Weakfish (*Cynoscion regalis*) - 16 inches
- (10) Yellowtail flounder (*Pleuronectes ferrugineus*) - 13 inches
- (11) Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) - 19 inches
- (12) Pollock (*Pollachius virens*) - 19 inches
- (13) Witch flounder (*Glyptocephalus cynoglossus*) - 14 inches
- (14) American plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*) - 14 inches
- (15) Redfish (*Sebastes marinus*) - 9 inches
- (16) Red drum (*Sciaenops ocellatus*) - 32 inches, and not more than two per day may be landed.

Any of said species less than the minimum legal length taken by any commercial fishing gear shall, without avoidable injury, be returned immediately to the water from which taken. No person on board an vessel engaged in commercial fishing or landing species taken by commercial fishing gear shall possess any summer flounder fillet less than the minimum total length for the species unless the carcass of the fish from which the fillet was removed has been retained and meets the minimum length. This subsection shall not be construed to prevent filleting of fish on shore or at the dockside.

(c) Sturgeon

- (1) No person shall take Atlantic sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus*) in Connecticut except from the waters of Long Island Sound. On board any vessel used to take Atlantic sturgeon, the possession limit shall be three (3) Atlantic sturgeon per day or per trip, whichever is the longer period of time. Said limit shall apply to the aggregate of all persons on board any such vessel.
- (2) The possession of Atlantic sturgeon less than eighty four (84) inches total length is prohibited.
- (3) Shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) shall not be taken, possessed, sold, exchanged or offered for sale or exchange in this state.
- (4) Any sturgeon taken contrary to the provisions of this subsection shall be immediately returned, without avoidable injury, to the waters from which it was taken.

Sec. 26-142a-9. American Eel

(a) Glass Eels. The open season for the taking of glass eels from the waters of this state, herein defined as transparent, non-feeding, larval American eels less than four inches in length, shall be March first through May thirty-first. No glass eels shall be taken from Saturday at 6:00 PM through Sunday at 6:00 AM during the open season and fishing gear for the taking of glass eels shall be removed from the waters of this state during this period. Glass eels shall only be taken in the marine district described in Section 26-108-1 and the main body of the Connecticut River, Housatonic River, and Thames River as defined in Section 26-142a-2. Glass eels shall be taken only by scoop or scap nets as defined in Section 26-142a-6 and by traps defined in subsection (b) of this section. Glass eels shall only be taken by holders of the Connecticut Commercial Finfish License.

(b) Glass Eel Traps. Traps for the taking of glass eels shall have a length of not more than

thirty-six inches and a width of not more than twenty-four inch and shall be equipped with one opening slot of not more than one inch gap. Glass eel traps shall not be equipped with more than one leader net or wing net, and such leader or wing shall not exceed seventy-two inches in length. No individual glass eel trap, or combination of glass eel traps including leader or wing, deployed by one or more than one individual shall block more than fifty percent of the width of a river, stream, or watercourse. No person shall place a glass eel trap within twenty-five feet of another person's trap and no person except the owner of said trap shall dip net glass eels within twenty-five feet of a glass eel trap. No person shall use or set more than ten glass eel traps in Connecticut waters at any time and no person shall set more than three such traps in one stream at any time except in the main body of the Connecticut, Thames, or Housatonic Rivers. Glass eel traps shall be removed from the waters of this state from June 1st through the last day in February. Each glass eel trap shall be affixed with the commercial fishing license plate number of the license holder in numbers not less than three-quarters of an inch in height.

#### Sec. 26-142a-12. Taking and sale of bait species

- (a) The following species of fish, amphibians, insects and crustaceans, to the exclusion of all other-species, may be taken commercially in the inland region under an inland commercial bait license, or in the marine region under a marine commercial bait license, and may be offered for sale as bait species under a bait dealers license: (1) golden shiner or "pond shiner" (*Notemigonus crysoleucas*); (2) common shiner (*Notropis cornutus*); (3) fallfish (*Semotilus corporalis*); (4) creek chub (*Semotilus atromaculatus*); (5) spottail shiner or "river bait" (*Notropis hudsonius*); (6) bridle shiner (*Notropis bifrenatus*); (7) blacknose dace (*Rhinichthys atratulus*); (8) longnose dace (*Rhinichthys cataractae*); (9) pearl dace (*Semotilus margarita*); (10) bluntnose minnow (*Pimephales notatus*); (11) fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*); (12) cutlips minnow (*Exoglossum maxillingua*); (13) chub sucker (*Erimyzon oblongus*); (14) banded killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus*); (15) mummichug (*Fundulus heteroclitus*); (16) striped killifish (*Fundulus majalis*); (17) tidewater silverside (*Menidia beryllina*); (18) Atlantic silverside (*Menidia menidia*); (19) sand lance or "sand eels" (*Ammodytes* spp.); (20) frogs (except northern leopard frog, *Rana pipiens*); (21) perch bugs; (22) helgramites; (23) mayfly nymphs; (24) other aquatic insects; (25) crayfish; (26) green crabs (*Carcinus maenas*); (27) fiddler crabs (*Uca* sp.); (28) hermit crabs (*Pagurus* sp.).
- (b) In addition to the bait species listed in subsection (a), the following species, if legally taken under the appropriate commercial license and meeting minimum legal length requirements, as specified in section 26-142a-8a of these regulations, may be offered for sale as bait under a bait dealers license: (1) menhaden (*Brevoortia tyrannus*); (2) alewives (*Alosa pseudoharengus*); (3) blueback or "glut" herring (*Alosa aestivalis*); (4) american eel (*Anguilla rostrata*); (5) butterfish (*Peprilus triacanthus*); (6) Atlantic mackerel (*Scomber scombrus*); (7) whiting (*Merluccius bilinearis*); (8) squid (*Loligo* sp.); and (9) sea herring (*Clupea harengus*).
- (c) Each bait dealer shall keep the following records on forms furnished by the department: (1) the date and quantity by species and source of each consignment of bait received by the licensee; (2) the total annual sale of bait by species made by the licensee during the license period. The above records shall be filed with the department within thirty days after the expiration date of the license.
- (d) This regulation does not apply to fish used to bait lobster pots or eel pots.

#### Sec. 26-142a-15. When license not required

In the marine district a commercial fishing license is not required to take, for personal use only, menhaden, alewives, glut herring, sea herring, eels, lampreys and bait species by the use of cast nets, minnow traps not more than twenty inches long and fifteen inches in diameter, scoop or scap nets not more than thirty-six inches in diameter, seines not more than thirty feet in length and not more than two eel pots.

#### Sec. 26-142a-16. Definitions

The following definitions shall apply to regulations adopted under authority of sections 26-112, 26-142a, 26-157b, 26-157c, and 26-159a of the general statutes:

- (1) "Bycatch" is that portion of a commercial fishery catch that is taken incidental to the directed fishing effort. Directed fishing is indicated by the primary species or group of species sought, the commercial gear utilized, the area and time of the year when the fishing occurs. Bycatch may include but not be limited to an amount of a species allowed to be taken during fishing with small mesh or a regulated gear type.
- (2) For commercial fishing purposes, to "land" means to tie up to a dock, the land or structure attached to the land, bring ashore, off-load, or to begin to off-load finfish, lobsters, crabs, sea scallops, or squid which were taken by commercial fishing gear or taken for commercial purposes. For sport fishing purposes, to "land" means to fail to immediately return any finfish, lobster, or crab, without avoidable injury to the waters from which such species were taken.
- (3) "Landing limit" is the total number or weight of finfish, crustaceans, squid, sea scallops or horseshoe crabs, of any species or species group that may be legally landed in this state.
- (4) "Possession limit" regarding commercial fishing is the total number or weight of finfish, crustaceans, squid, sea scallops or horseshoe crabs, of any species or species group that may be legally possessed while on the waters of the state by a holder of a license or registration issued under authority of section 26-142a of the general statutes concerning the taking of lobsters, finfish, crabs, squid, sea scallops or horseshoe crabs.
- (5) "Lath" is the wood used to construct the outer surface of a lobster pot.

### COMMERCIAL HATCHERIES

#### Sec. 26-149-1. Commercial hatcheries reporting requirements

Each owner or operator of a licensed commercial hatchery shall keep a complete record on forms furnished by the Commissioner of finfish, lobsters and blue crabs purchased from any source and brought into said hatchery. Each owner or operator of a licensed commercial hatchery shall keep a complete record of all sales of live finfish, live egg bearing lobsters, live sub-legal lobsters, live egg bearing blue crabs and live sub legal blue crabs on forms furnished by the Commissioner. Such records shall be furnished to the Commissioner by January 31 of the year following the year covered by the report.

#### Sec. 26-149-2. Commercial hatcheries, removal of fish from premises

Owners or operators of commercial finfish hatcheries issued a license by the Department of Environmental Protection and their guests may remove any species of fish from the waters of such

commercial hatcheries by any method, except by the use of chemicals or explosives. Fish taken from such hatcheries by the owner, operator or guests may be removed from the premises, possessed and transported at any season of the year without regard to legal lengths or daily creel limits, provided such fish or the package containing such fish, shall have attached thereto a tag or label showing the name and address of the owner of such hatchery, the number of the commercial fish hatchery license, the number and species of fish, the date such fish were removed from such hatchery and the name of the person removing such fish from such premises. The owner or operator of such hatchery shall not allow guests to remove live fish from the hatchery premises unless said guest is in possession of written authority from the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection granted under the authority of Section 26-55 of the General Statutes to stock or introduce such species of fish in specified waters of the state.

#### Sec. 26-149-3. Artificial fishing facilities

Operators of artificial fishing facilities, as authorized under the provisions of Section 26-149 of the General Statutes, may permit guests to take from such artificial fishing facility by angling legally acquired species of trout, charr or salmon, without regard to season, legal lengths or daily creel limits. Such fish may be removed from the premises, possessed and transported by any such guest, provided such fish are dead and provided such fish or the package containing such fish, shall have attached thereto a tag or label showing the name and address of the operator of such artificial fishing facility, the location of the enterprise with which it is associated, the number and species of fish, the date taken and the name and address of the person having possession of such fish.

### REPORTS TO THE COMMISSIONER

#### Sec. 26-157b-1. Reports

Each inland commercial fisherman, marine commercial fisherman, holder of a pound net registration, menhaden purse seine registration, or charter-party boat registration, each person licensed to take lobsters for personal use only and each person licensed to purchase marine species for resale shall make periodic reports to the commissioner. These reports may include but are not limited to such things as number, weight and sex of finfish, squid, sea scallops, lobsters or crabs; gear used and effort expended; the area fished; value of catch; type and value of nets, boats and other equipment used; number of persons employed; number and weight of marine species purchased and distributed and the number of lines fished by charter-party boats. These reports shall be made on forms provided by the commissioner and said forms shall be completed in their entirety and filed in the office of the department (Marine Fisheries Office, P. O. Box 719, Old Lyme, CT 06371) as provided in subsections (a) through (k) of this section.

(a) Each licensed commercial shad fisherman shall complete daily the shad report log in its entirety and file said report at the department office no later than July fifteenth of the year covered by the log.

(b) Each person licensed to take blue crabs for commercial purposes shall file an annual report at the office of the department not later than January thirty-first of the year following the year covered by the report.

(c) Each person or firm issued a registration for a pound net or similar device shall file an annual report at the office of the department not later than January thirty-first of the year covered by the report.

(d) Each person licensed to set, tend or assist in setting or tending gill nets, seines, trap nets, fish pots, fykes, scaps, scoops, weirs, eel pots or similar devices to take finfish, or licensed to take finfish for commercial purposes by hook and line, shall carry on board at all times and complete a report log in its entirety, daily or at the end of the fishing trip, except that holders of such licenses are exempt from this method of reporting if said license holder provides information on NOAA Form 88-30 (Fishing Vessel Trip Report) from the National Marine Fisheries Service. Said log or report forms shall be filed in the office of the department not later than the tenth of the month covered by the report. Such logs or report forms shall be available on board inspection by authorized agents of the commissioner.

(e) Each person licensed to set, tend, or assist in setting or tending seines, traps, scaps, scoops, weirs or similar devices to take bait species for commercial purposes in the inland region shall file a report not later than January thirty-first of the year following the year covered by the report.

(f) Each person licensed to set, tend or assist in setting or tending seines, traps, scaps, scoops, weirs or similar devices to take bait species in the marine region for commercial purposes shall file an annual report not later than January thirty-first of the year following the year covered by the report.

(g) Each person or firm issued a registration for a boat or vessel engaged in using a purse seine to take menhaden shall complete the trip report log in its entirety and file said log at the department office not later than December thirty-first of the year covered by the log.

(h) Each person licensed to take lobsters for personal use only by means of not more than ten lobster pots, by skin diving, scuba diving or by hand shall complete the trip report log in its entirety and file said log in the office of the department not later than January thirty-first of the year following the year covered by the log.

(i) Each person (resident or nonresident) licensed to take lobsters, squid, sea scallops, crabs (other than blue crabs) and finfish for personal use or for sale by means of more than ten lobster pots or similar devices, or by the use of otter trawls, balloon trawls, beam trawls or similar devices, and each person licensed to land lobsters, sea scallops, finfish, crabs, including blue crabs, or squid shall carry on board at all times and complete a report log in its entirety, daily or at the end of the fishing trip, except that the commissioner may exempt holders of such licenses from this method of reporting if said license holder agrees to provide information on NOAA Form 88-30 (Fishing Vessel Trip Report) from the National Marine Fisheries Service. Said log or report form shall be filed in the office of the department not later than the tenth of the month following the month covered by the report. Such logs or report forms shall be available for on board inspection by authorized agents of the commissioner.

(j) Each person or firm licensed to buy lobsters, finfish, squid, crabs, or sea scallops for resale from commercial fishermen licensed by the commissioner shall complete in its entirety a daily report of purchases of such species and this report shall be filed at the department office not later than the tenth of the month following the month covered by the report except that the Commissioner may exempt holders of this license from this method of reporting if said license holder agrees to provide information on NOAA Form 88-36 (Purchases From Fishing Vessels) from the National Marine Fisheries Service.

(k) Each person or firm issued a charter boat or party boat registration shall complete a trip log in



its entirety and file such log at the department office not later than January thirty-first of the year following the year of the report except that the Commissioner may exempt holders of this registration from this method of reporting if said registration holder agrees to provide information on NOAA Form 88-30 (Fishing Vessel Trip Report) from the National Marine Fisheries Service.

(l) In addition to the provisions of subsections (a) to (k), inclusive, of this section, all holders of licenses or registrations issued under section 26-142a of the general statutes concerning the taking of finfish, lobsters, crabs, sea scallops, or squid shall report weekly total landings in pounds and Connecticut port where landed, for each species managed by a Connecticut state quota. Weekly reports shall be made for the period commencing on Sunday and concluding on the following Saturday, and shall be transmitted by facsimile, delivered in person to the DEP Marine Fisheries Office, 333 Ferry Road, Old Lyme, or telephoned to the DEP Marine Fisheries Office no later than 4:30 p.m. on the following Tuesday or 24 hours after the end of any fishing trip commencing prior to a Saturday and concluding after the following Monday.

## TAKING OF LOBSTER

### Sec. 26-157c-1. Taking lobsters - general

(a) Lobsters may be taken only by lobster pots, traps, trawls or similar devices or by skin diving, including the use of self-contained underwater breathing apparatus, or by hand. The use of spears or hooks of any kind to take lobsters is prohibited.

(b) No person shall buy, sell, give away, expose for sale or possess any female lobster, regardless where taken, with ova or spawn attached or from which the ova or spawn has been removed or any lobster, regardless where taken, with a body shell (carapace) less than 3-1/4 inches. Such length shall be measured by taking the length of the body shell (carapace) parallel to the center line from the rear end of the eye socket to the rear end of the body shell (carapace).

(c) Any lobster less than minimum length, when caught, shall, without avoidable injury, be immediately returned to the waters from which taken. All female lobsters, when caught with ova or spawn attached, shall, without avoidable injury, be immediately returned to the waters from which taken.

### Sec. 26-157c-2. Taking lobsters - pots and traps

(a) All lobster pots, traps and similar devices used for the taking of lobsters shall be constructed so as to contain in the catch compartment (parlor) one of the following: (1) a horizontal, rectangular escape vent with an unobstructed opening not less than 1-3/4 inches by 6 inches, and effective January 1, 1995, the horizontal, rectangular escape vent with an unobstructed opening shall be not less than 1-7/8" by 5-3/4 inches; or (2) two circular escape vents each with an unobstructed opening not less than 2-1/4 inches in diameter, and effective January 1, 1995, the circular escape vents with an unobstructed opening each shall be not less than 2-3/8" inches in diameter. All lobster pots, traps or similar devices found in use which do not contain such escape vents may be seized by any authorized representative of the Department of Environmental Protection and disposed of as determined by the commissioner.

(b) All lobster pots and traps made of material other than wood used for the taking of lobsters shall be constructed so as to contain, on any side of the catch compartment (parlor), an

escapement panel which, when open, will provide an unobstructed orifice not less than three and three quarter (3-3/4) inches by three and three quarter (3-3/4) inches. If constructed of wood,

less than 1-3/4 inches by 6 inches-and, effective January 1, 1996, not less than 1-7/8 inches by 5-3/4 inches and, on the longitudinal axis, be composed of lath not thicker than 3/8 of an inch. If

in the closed position with uncoated, ferrous wire, the stock of which is not more than three thirty seconds (3/32) of an inch in diameter or with untreated natural fiber such as cotton, sisal, hemp,

be seized by any authorized representative of the Department of Environmental Protection and disposed of as determined by the commissioner.

for the catching of lobsters or any live car or other device in which lobsters are kept in the water, after having been removed from the pots, traps or trawls in which they were caught from one-half

(d) Effective April 1, 1989, all lobster pot buoys used by each person licensed to take lobsters in the waters of this state shall be of uniform color and pattern of coloration, such color and pattern

position visible from all directions, a buoy displaying his color and pattern of coloration.

(e) All lobster pots used by any person licensed to take lobsters in the waters of this state shall be

transfer of ownership of said pots, any previous identification shall not be removed or obliterated. Any lobster pot, trap or similar device found to contain a defaced or obliterated license number

and either used by the Department for purposes of marine research or destroyed.

Sec. 26-157c-3. Taking lobsters - otter trawls, beam trawls and similar devices

Griswold Point in Old Lyme to Mulford Point on Long Island, on any vessel having on board an otter trawl, beam trawl or similar device capable of taking lobsters, there shall be a possession

apply to the aggregate of all persons on board such vessel.

(b) The transfer by any person of any lobster from any vessel having on board an otter trawl,

## COMMERCIAL AND SPORT FISHING IN THE MARINE DISTRICT

Sec. 26-159a-1. Sport fishing and commercial fishing for trout, charr and salmon in the marine

The minimum legal length for trout and charr taken by angling in the marine district shall be fifteen inches. The daily creel limit for trout and/or charr shall be two fish in the aggregate. The

methods other than angling is prohibited. The taking of Atlantic salmon in the marine district is

prohibited and all Atlantic salmon caught must be immediately returned without avoidable injury to the waters from which taken.

#### Sec. 26-159a-2. Striped bass (*Morone saxatilis*)

(a) The daily creel limit for striped bass shall be two (2) and no person while on the waters or shores of this state shall possess any striped bass in excess of the daily creel limit. This provision shall not be construed to restrict the number of legally acquired fish that may be kept in storage in the home or in other storage facilities.

(b) The minimum length of striped bass taken in this state, measured from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail, shall be twenty-eight (28) inches. No person shall bring ashore or possess on the waters of this state any striped bass from which the head or tail has been removed or that has otherwise been rendered incapable of being identified or measured.

(c) No person shall sell, exchange, or offer for sale or exchange any striped bass taken from the waters of this state. Striped bass taken from the waters of a state in which commercial striped bass fishing is allowed may only be possessed for commercial purposes in Connecticut provided they meet the minimum length specified in subsection (b) of this section and each fish is affixed with that state's valid, current commercial striped bass tag.

(d) No person shall possess, sell, exchange, or offer for sale or exchange any striped bass, regardless where taken, less than the minimum length, except that artificially reared hybrid striped bass (one parent *Morone saxatilis*) which are less than the minimum length, may be possessed and sold under the following conditions:

(1) such fish, when offered for sale, shall have affixed to the opercular plate (gill cover), a tag, the utility of which is destroyed when removed, bearing the origin of said fish and all such fish or portions thereof shall be accompanied by documentation showing that such fish were propagated in a licensed commercial fish hatchery;

(2) such documentation shall include the name and address of the owner of the hatchery of origin, the number and description of fish received in the current shipment, and the shipping date and date of receipt of the current shipment;

(3) the retail purchaser of any such fish shall be provided with a receipt showing the origin of such fish.

(e) Striped bass shall not be taken except by angling and the use of a gaff in the taking of striped bass is prohibited.

(f) Any striped bass taken contrary to the provisions of this section shall be returned immediately to the waters from which taken.

#### Sec. 26-159a-4. Minimum lengths

(a) The minimum lengths of the following species taken by sport fishing methods and measured from the tip of the snout to the end of the tail shall be as follows:

(1) Scup (porgy) (*Stenotomus chrysops*) - 8 inches;

(2) Winter flounder (*Pleuronectes americanus*) - 11 inches and, effective October 1, 1995, 12 inches;

(3) Summer flounder (fluke) (*Paralichthys dentatus*) - 14 inches;

- (4) Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) - 19 inches;
- (5) Haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) - 19 inches;
- (6) Yellowtail flounder (*Pleuronectes ferrugineus*) - 13 inches;
- (7) Blackfish (*Tautoga onitis*) - 14 inches;
- (8) Pollock (*Pollachius virens*) - 19 inches;
- (9) Weakfish (*Cynoscion regalis*) - 16 inches.

(b) No person shall possess in this state any of said species less than the minimum length regardless of where taken. Any of said species taken contrary to this regulation shall, without avoidable injury, be returned immediately to the water from which taken. No person engaged in sport fishing shall possess any summer flounder fillet less than the minimum total length for the species unless the carcass of the fish from which the fillet was removed has been retained and meets the minimum length. This subsection shall not be construed to prevent filleting of fish on shore or at the dockside.

#### Sec. 26-159a-5. Vessel size

(a) (1) No person shall use any vessel greater than forty four (44) feet in length for the purpose of towing any otter trawl, beam trawl or similar device in the waters of this state west of longitude 73 degree 00 minutes, except a person may use a vessel greater than forty four (44) feet in length for this purpose if that person used any vessel greater than forty four (44) feet in length for this purpose in the calendar year 1982. Use during calendar year 1982 shall be determined by inspection of the fishing records filed pursuant to section 26-157b of the Connecticut General Statutes, and shall be demonstrated by fishing activities in Connecticut waters and/or the landing of catch at Connecticut ports. Size of vessel in use during calendar year 1982 shall be determined by inspection of the fishing license application or renewal filed pursuant to section 26-142a of the Connecticut General Statutes or by inspection of vessel registration or documentation. Any person who meets the criteria for the use of a vessel greater than forty four (44) feet in length may use any vessel with a length equal to or less than that of the vessel for which the exception was determined.

(2) A person denied the use of any vessel under this subsection may apply in writing to the Commissioner for a variance. The Commissioner, at his discretion, may grant a variance provided:

(A) the applicant used any vessel for the purpose of towing any otter trawl, beam trawl or similar device in Connecticut waters during the calendar year 1982 and acquired a vessel larger than forty four (44) feet in length prior to December 31, 1982;

(B) the applicant made a written commitment prior to December 31, 1982 to acquire or construct a vessel larger than forty four (44) feet in length for the purpose of towing any otter trawl, beam trawl or similar device in Connecticut waters; or

(C) the applicant is an ascendant, descendant or sibling of a person using, at the time of the application, a vessel larger than forty four (44) feet in length pursuant to this subsection, and the applicant is applying to use said vessel.

(b) No person shall use any vessel greater than twenty six (26) feet in length to tow any otter trawl, beam trawl or similar device in any waters of the state north of a line beginning at the southerly tip of the Byram River breakwater to buoy N2, which is two-tenths of a nautical mile

southwest of Great Captain Island to buoy N34, which is one-half nautical mile south of Greenwich Point in Greenwich to buoy R32, which is eight-tenths of a nautical mile south of Shippan Point in Stamford to buoy R24A, which is nine-tenths of a nautical mile south of Pecks Ledge in Norwalk to buoy R24, which is nine-tenths of a nautical mile southeast of the southern tip of Cockenoe Reef in Norwalk to buoy BH, which is one and four-tenths nautical miles southeast of Penfield Reef Light in Bridgeport to a point midway between buoy R18 and R20, which point is one and six-tenths nautical miles south of Point No Point in Stratford and thence towards the west end of the west breakwater at New Haven Harbor and west of a line drawn from the Stratford Shoal light to the easterly breakwater of the Housatonic River in Milford.

(c) No person shall use any vessel greater than forty-four (44) feet in length to tow any otter trawl, beam trawl or similar device in any waters of the state north of a line from shore to shore running through buoy C5 at Three Foot Rock in East Lyme and buoy N6 at Black Rock in Waterford.

(d) No person shall use any vessel to tow any otter trawl, beam trawl or similar device in any waters of the state north of a line extending from the southern tip of the Old Saybrook west breakwater to Buoy R8 which is 1.5 nautical miles southeast of the southern tip of the Old Saybrook west breakwater to the shoreline at 72 degrees 18 minutes west longitude in Old Lyme, which is approximately 1.9 nautical miles east of the Old Saybrook breakwater, from Friday one hour after sunset to Sunday one hour before sunset.

#### Sec. 26-159a-6. Use of commercial fishing gear

On any waters of Long Island Sound lying west of the Loran C 14935 line at Kimberly Reef, no person shall operate an otter trawl, beam trawl or similar device from one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise.

#### Sec. 26-159a-8. Winter flounder

(a) The taking of winter flounder from the waters of this state during the period March 1 through April 14, by holders of a license or registration issued under authority of section 26-142a of the Connecticut general statutes concerning the taking of finfish for commercial purposes is prohibited except as provided in section 26-142a-6(g)(1)(c). No bottom trawl gear other than fly net gear defined in 26-142a-6(g)(1)(c) shall be used during this period in the waters of this state.

(b) The daily creel limit for winter flounder taken by sport fishing shall be eight (8) fish and no person while on the waters of this state or on any parcel of land, structure or roadway abutting tidal waters shall possess any winter flounder in excess of the daily creel limit, except that the daily limit shall not apply to holders of a license or registration issued under authority of Section 26-142a of the Connecticut General Statutes concerning the taking of finfish for commercial purposes. No person shall take more than the daily creel limit for winter flounder by spears of any kind. This subsection shall not be construed to restrict the number of legally acquired fish that may be kept in storage in the home or in other storage facilities.

#### Sec. 26-159a-9. Bluefish (*Pomatomus saltatrix*).

(a) The daily creel limit for bluefish shall be ten (10), and no person, while on the waters of this

state or on any parcel of land, structure, or portion of a roadway abutting tidal waters, shall possess any bluefish in excess of the daily creel limit, except that the daily creel limit established in this subsection shall not apply to any holder of a license or registration issued under authority of Section 26-142a of the General Statutes for fishing during the open commercial fishing season defined in subsection (d). Any such bluefish taken in accordance with a creel limit during times other than the open commercial fishing season shall not be used for commercial purposes.

(b) No person shall use any pair trawl or purse seine to capture or take any bluefish.

(c) No person shall use any roller rig gill net to surround any bluefish. For the purposes of this section, a roller rig gill net is defined as a gill net which is set or retrieved with the assistance of a mechanical, electrical, or hydraulic device.

(d) Open Commercial Fishing Season. The open commercial fishing season begins April 15th each year and ends December 31st or such sooner date as one hundred percent of the Connecticut quota of bluefish as set forth in subsection (f) has been landed. No holder of a license or registration issued under section 26-142a of the general statutes concerning the taking of finfish shall land bluefish in excess of the daily creel limit specified in subsection (a) from January 1st to April 14th inclusive, or after one hundred percent of the Connecticut quota specified in subsection (f) has been landed. Any such bluefish taken in accordance with a creel limit shall not be used for commercial purposes.

(e) Commercial Fishery Possession Limit. (1) No holder of a commercial fishing or landing license permitted to take bluefish from the waters of this state or to land bluefish in Connecticut, regardless of where such fish are taken, shall possess bluefish in excess of the limits specified as follows:

(A) five hundred pounds until a total of ninety-five percent of the Connecticut quota specified in subsection (f) has been landed in Connecticut, at which time the limit shall be one hundred pounds until the Connecticut quota has been landed in Connecticut,

(B) on October first, if less than eighty percent of the Connecticut quota specified in subsection (f) has been landed in Connecticut, the limit shall be one thousand pounds until a total of ninety-five percent of the Connecticut quota has been landed in Connecticut, at which time the limit shall be one hundred pounds.

(C) when 100 percent of the Connecticut quota is landed the possession limit shall be zero.

(2) The possession limits specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to the aggregate of all persons on board the vessel per trip or per day whichever is the longer period of time. Transfer of bluefish between vessels at sea is prohibited.

(f) Commercial Quota. The commercial fishery quota for bluefish landed in Connecticut regardless where such bluefish are taken shall be the state quota specified in 50 CFR Part 628 of the code of federal regulations.

#### Sec. 26-159a-10. Summer flounder (*Paralichthys dentatus*).

(a) Daily Creel Limit. The daily creel limit for summer flounder taken by sport fishing shall be six (6) fish and no person while on the waters of this state or on any parcel of land, structure, or portion of a roadway abutting tidal waters shall possess any summer flounder in excess of the daily creel limit, except that the daily limit shall not apply to holders of a license or registration issued under authority of Section 26-142a of the General Statutes concerning the taking of finfish. No person shall take more than the daily creel limit for summer flounder by spears of any kind.

This subsection shall not be construed to restrict the number of legally acquired fish that may be marketed.

(b) Commercial Moratorium. (1) Prior to January 1, 1998, no holder of a license or registration

possessed summer flounder unless said person:

(A) has in his possession a Summer Flounder License Endorsement Letter for Connecticut

(i) attests that the license holder recorded finfish landings in Connecticut taken by commercial fin fishing methods between January 1, 1985 and January 1, 1994 as indicated in reports submitted

of the U. S. National Marine Fisheries Service, or in a notarized copy of a dealer or wholesaler receipt; or

fishing vessel between January 26, 1990 and January 1, 1994 for purposes of fishing with commercial fin fishing gear, to be based on written proof of such activity; or

subdivision (1) of this subsection. During such operation, said endorsement letter shall remain on said vessel as authorization of the operator to possess summer flounder and shall not be used to

holder shall be allowed to use his endorsement letter to authorize possession of summer flounder on any vessel he owned prior to January 1, 1994.

information contained in reports submitted under the authority of Section 26-157b. Any person who does not receive a License Endorsement Letter, or is denied a Summer Flounder License

only grounds for appeal is that the Commissioner erred in concluding that the license holder did not meet the criteria in (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection.

license permitted to take summer flounder from the waters of this state or to land summer flounder in Connecticut, regardless of where such fish are taken, shall possess summer flounder in

(A) between January first and April thirtieth, five thousand pounds, until a total of thirty percent of the Connecticut quota specified in 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 625 has been

fifty percent of the Connecticut quota specified in 50 CFR Part 625 has been landed in Connecticut, at which time the amount shall be two hundred pounds;

Connecticut quota specified in 50 CFR Part 625 has been landed in Connecticut, at which time the limit shall be one hundred pounds;

pounds in September, and five hundred pounds in October, until seventeen percent of the Connecticut quota specified in 50 CFR Part 625 has been landed in Connecticut, at which time the

(D) Between November first and November thirtieth, three thousand pounds, unless or until a

total of eighty-seven percent of the Connecticut quota specified in 50 CFR Part 625 has been landed in Connecticut, at which time the limit shall be two hundred pounds, except that, if by November fifteenth, less than eighty percent of the Connecticut quota specified in 50 CFR Part 625 has been landed in Connecticut, the limit shall be five thousand pounds until a total of ninety-five percent of the Connecticut quota specified in 50 CFR Part 625 has been landed in Connecticut, at which time the limit shall be two hundred pounds;

(E) Between December first and December thirty-first, five thousand pounds, unless or until a total of ninety-five percent of the Connecticut quota specified in 50 CFR Part 625 has been landed in Connecticut, at which time the limit shall be two hundred pounds, except that, if by December first, less than eighty percent of the Connecticut quota specified in 50 CFR Part 625 has been landed in Connecticut, landings shall not be limited until a total of ninety-five percent of the Connecticut quota specified in 50 CFR Part 625 has been landed in Connecticut, at which time the limit shall be two hundred pounds.

(F) When 100 percent of the Connecticut quota is landed the possession limit shall be zero.

(2) The possession limits specified in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall apply to the aggregate of all persons on board the vessel per trip or per day whichever is the longer period of time. Transfer of summer flounder between vessels at sea is prohibited.

(d) Summer Flounder Mesh Size. As defined in subsection (g) of Section 26-142a-6 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the codend mesh size shall be not less than five and one-half inches (diamond mesh) or six inches (square mesh) on any vessel on which more than one hundred pounds of summer flounder is possessed during the period May first through October thirty-first, or more than two hundred pounds is possessed during the period November first through April thirtieth, all dates inclusive, and all summer flounder on board shall be kept apart from the main catch. This subsection shall not apply to the landings of any vessel exempted under Section 625.24 of 50 CFR Part 625.

#### Sec. 26-159a-11. Alewives and River Herring

The daily creel limit for alewives (*Alosa pseudoharengus*) and river herring (*Alosa aestivalis*) shall be twenty-five (25) in the aggregate, and no person while on the waters or shores of this state, shall possess any alewives or river herring in excess of the daily creel limit except that this limit shall not be applied to holders of a license or registration concerning the taking of finfish issued under section 26-142a of the general statutes.

#### Sec. 26-159a-12. American Goosefish (Monkfish) (*Lophius americanus*)

(a) The minimum length of monkfish shall be seventeen inches in total length, the minimum length of monkfish tails shall be eleven inches measured from the third dorsal spine from the snout to the tip of the tail, and no person while on the waters of this state or on any parcel of land, structure or portion of a roadway abutting tidal waters, shall possess any monkfish tails or whole fish less than the minimum length.

(b) Possession of monkfish livers in excess of twenty-five percent of the weight of monkfish tails or ten percent of the weight of whole fish possessed shall be prohibited.

#### Sec. 26-159a-13. Marine Fishing Tournaments



No person, club, or organization shall conduct, in Connecticut marine waters, a fishing tournament or derby which is open to persons sixteen years of age or older without having first registered as herein provided.

(a) Each person, club, or organization wishing to conduct a fishing tournament or derby in marine waters shall register such tournament or derby with the Commissioner on forms provided by him. Information required on such registration shall include the full name and address of the registrant; name of the tournament or derby; sponsor; location; date(s); starting time(s); check-in time(s); check-in location(s); anticipated number of participants; daily bag limits; size limit; entry fee; and total value of awards.

(b) Each registrant shall, within seven days after conducting a tournament or derby, report to the Commissioner, on forms provided by him, information on the results of the tournament or derby. Such information shall include: total number of participants; total hours fished; total number of each species caught, the number released or retained; and total weight of each species retained.

(c) Representatives of the Commissioner may collect biological and statistical information on any or all fish caught by participants at any registered tournament or derby.

#### Sec. 26-159a-14. Tautog (Blackfish)

(a) Closed Season. No person engaged in sport or commercial fishing, with the exception of holders of a commercial pound net registration, shall take, bring ashore, or possess any tautog, wherever taken, from May first through June fourteenth, both dates inclusive.

(b) Sport Fishery Creel Limit. The daily creel limit for tautog taken by sport fishing shall be four (4) fish and no person while on the waters of this state or on any parcel of land, structure, or portion of a roadway abutting tidal waters shall possess any tautog in excess of the daily creel limit, except that the daily limit shall not apply to holders of a license or registration issued under authority of section 26-142a of the General Statutes concerning the taking of finfish. No person shall take more than the daily creel limit for tautog by spears of any kind. This subsection shall not be construed to restrict the number of legally acquired fish that may be kept in storage in the home or in commercial facilities where seafood is handled, stored or marketed.

(c) Commercial Fishery Possession Limit. No holder of any fishing or landing license permitted to take tautog from the waters of this state or to land tautog in Connecticut, regardless of where such fish are taken, shall possess tautog in excess of the limits specified as follows:

(1 ) In the commercial trawl fishery, seventy-five (75) fish;

(2) In the commercial hook, fish pot, trap net, fyke net, or gill net fisheries, twenty-five (25) fish;

(3) In the pound net fishery, twelve (12) fish for each holder of a Connecticut Marine Pound net registration, except that all female tautog shall be released without avoidable injury between May first and June fourteenth.

(4) In the lobster pot or lobster trap fishery, when in possession of lobsters, ten fish (10).

(5) The possession limits specified in this subsection shall be the aggregate of all persons on board the vessel per trip or per day whichever is the longer period of time. Transfer of tautog between vessels at sea is prohibited.